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DECEMBER 30 1961

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THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

ESTABLISHED 1859

The weekly newspaper for pharmacy and all sections of the drug, pharmaceutical and fine chemical, cosmetic, and allied industries

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December 30, 1961

No. 4272

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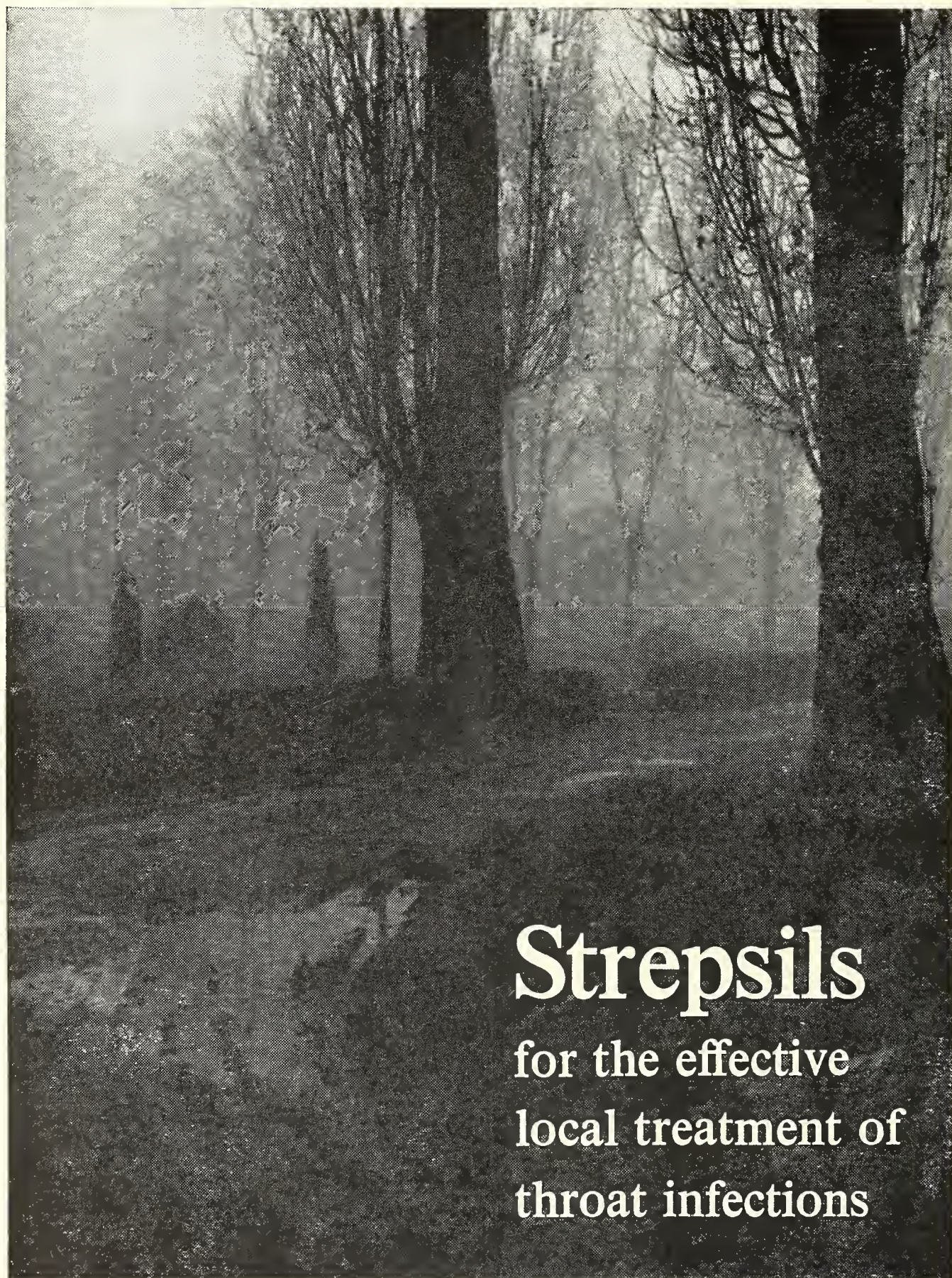


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The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

Vol. 176

DECEMBER 30, 1961

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Agricultural Chemicals MORE APPROVED PRODUCTS

THE Agricultural Departments in the United Kingdom announce that the following further additional products have been approved under the Agricultural Chemicals Approval Scheme (see *C. & D.*, November 25, p. 569):—

Insecticides

DIAZINON ATOMISING SOLUTIONS: Basudin mushroom aerosol (W. Darlington & Sons, Ltd.).

TETRACHLORODIPHENYLSULPHONE: A persistent organic acaricide for the control of fruit tree red spider mite and red spider mite eggs and young active stages. **LIQUID FORMULATIONS:** Midox Tedion V-18 (Midox agricultural division of Rentokil Products, Ltd.).

Herbicides

2,4-DB SODIUM SALT FORMULATIONS: Embutox (May & Baker, Ltd.).

DICHLORPROP: A translocated phenoxypropionic compound for the control of redshank, black bindweed and certain other weeds in spring and autumn-sown cereals. **LIQUID FORMULATIONS:** Cornox RK (Boots Pure Drug Co., Ltd.); Marks Polytox (A. H. Marks & Co., Ltd.).

MCPB SODIUM SALT FORMULATIONS: Stancide MCPB (S.D.C. Pesticides, Ltd.).

MCPB WITH MCPA POTASSIUM AND SODIUM SALT FORMULATIONS: Stancide Plus MCPB/MCPA (S.D.C. Pesticides, Ltd.); Tropotox Plus (May & Baker, Ltd.).

METHOXYCHLOROBENZOIC ACID WITH MCPA: A substituted benzoic acid with MCPA for the control of weeds, especially those resistant to MCPA alone, e.g., black bindweed, chickweed, knotgrass and redshank, in cereals. **POTASSIUM AND SODIUM SALT FORMULATIONS:** Banlene (Fisons Pest Control, Ltd.).

2,4,5-T WITH 2,4-D ESTER FORMULATIONS: Econal (Baywood Chemicals, Ltd.).

METHAM-SODIUM LIQUID FORMULATIONS: Sistan (Plant Protection, Ltd.).

Five-day Week Problems

STORES AGAINST MONDAY CLOSING

OWING to opposition from a majority of multiple stores and a consequent change of heart by many private retailers, Crawley, Sussex, Chamber of Trade is no longer recommending traders in the town centre to co-operate in a scheme for total closing of premises on Mondays. Instead, it was decided at a meeting on December 13 to back those retailers still in favour of the scheme in their plans to close each Monday from January 1, 1962, or alternatively to operate a rota for staff while remaining open. The scheme raised problems for retail pharmacists in the area, who were divided in their opinions on whether they should work a holiday rota on Mondays (that is, remain open for one hour for prescriptions only). Consequently the majority are opening all day and some are making suitable arrangements with their staffs.

Kefauver's Bill

U.S. DRUG MAKERS LODGE STATEMENT

THE United States Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Association recently placed on record its position on S1552—the so-called Kefauver Compulsory Licensing Bill. The statement says that the Bill, if approved, would greatly weaken pharmaceutical industry research because it would reduce patent protection of drug inventions from seventeen years to three years and would require the Government to determine the relative efficacy of drugs.

EC10 Revised

NEW LAYOUT AND LARGER SIZE

A NEW layout for the EC10 prescription form has been approved by the Minister of Health. Changes have been made to provide space for additional entries and to facilitate sorting. The new form (4 1/5 x 6 7/16 in.) is slightly larger than the present form. It includes a column in which the chemist endorses the pack size from which orders for proprietary products have

been dispensed. A space is provided on the front of the form for the doctor's name, address and reference-number

Chemist's Stamp MIDDLESEX EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Mr. } Mrs. } (name and initials of patient) Miss } Age, if under 14 years, ... Address.....		For use only by Pricing Office
R		
Signature of Doctor		Date
For Chemist No. of Prescriptions on form Form E.C.10		SEE NOTES OVERLEAF B & S. Ltd. 1285

stamp. The layout of forms EC10(D), EC10(HP), EC10(S) and EC14 is similarly revised. The 1/2 in. stub of those pads gives them overall dimensions of 4 1/5 x 6 15/16 in. A space is provided at the foot of the front of form EC10(D) for the Council's name stamp. The revised forms should come into use soon.



NOTTINGHAM STUDENTS AT LOUGHBOROUGH: A party of forty student members of Nottingham University pharmaceutical society visited the laboratories and factory of Genatosan, Ltd., at Loughborough recently and were afterwards entertained to tea. The picture shows a group of the students with Messrs. A. H. Snowden, F.P.S., F.R.I.C., and D. R. Kelham, M.Inst.Packaging.

National Research

CORPORATION'S ANNUAL REPORT

THE annual report of the National Research Development Corporation (H.M. Stationery Office, price 2s. 3d.), mentions that the Corporation is participating in arrangements to secure the development and commercial exploitation of some important results of work carried out by Medical Research Council workers in the culture of common cold viruses. The arrangements allow for technical co-operation between the Medical Research Council and members of the United Kingdom pharmaceutical industry, and provide for the Corporation and the firms concerned to be shareholders in a private company which is to be set up to handle the business situation involved. Arrangements have also been made for the workers of the Lister Institute and the M.R.C. to undertake a co-operative technical collaboration with members of the U.K. pharmaceutical industry aimed at developing and ultimately making available a vaccine for the treatment of trachoma. A programme of work is being supported which is aimed at the purification and characterisation of a substance contained in the pituitaries of animals which appears to be intimately concerned with fat utilisation of the body, while at another station that certain blood cells (eosinophils) in horses display interesting biological activities and in particular an antihistamine effect, is being followed up. The Corporation's expenditure on development in the year to June 30 was £812,000.

Vaccine Control

ADDRESSES TO MICROBIOLOGY GROUP

CONTROL testing of poliovirus vaccine by the Medical Research Council was described by Dr. F. T. Perkins at a meeting of the microbiology group of the Society of Chemical Industry in London on November 23. Dr. Perkins said that in its tests the M.R.C. was "looking for the safety and the potency of the product." Safety was affected largely by contaminating viruses. It appeared general that control of manufactured biological materials was governed mainly by the methods used in their production. Inactivated (Salk) poliovirus vaccine was examined by the M.R.C. both in cell cultures and in experimental animals for the presence of any virus particles that had escaped the inactivation process. Tests on the live attenuated product (Sabin strains) concentrated on identifying it with a parent sample already shown to be potent and safe by clinical trial. A case for a good safe measles prophylactic was made out by Dr. C. Kaplan (Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine), in presenting a paper on the development of virus vaccines. Referring to modifications of vaccines to supplant a well tried effective product by a newer untried one was "not womanish but a cautious attitude for the good of the community." Other papers were presented by Dr. P. B. Stones (Pfizer, Ltd.), on the use of tissue culture for virus and by Mr. K. J. O'Reilly (Wellcome Research Laboratories), on the production of vaccines by egg culture.

Design Centre

PRODUCTS ACCEPTED FOR INDEX

AMONG items accepted for inclusion in the Design Index during November were the Model Mark VIII technical camera of Micro Precision Products, Ltd., Kingston-on-Thames; vitrified acid resistant floor tiles (the Lefco) by the Leeds Fireclay Co., Ltd., Leeds, 12; and the Isora translucent suspended ceiling of Isora Illuminated Ceilings, Ltd., Slough, Bucks.

IRISH NEWS

THE REPUBLIC

Free Medicine

ELIGIBILITY MEMO FROM MINISTER

DUBLIN Health Authority was reminded at a recent meeting that persons not covered by medical cards might still obtain medicines free if they were in real hardship. In a letter from the Department of Health, the Minister (Mr. S. McEntee) requested the Authority to make the position clear to the public. The letter stated that in the increased use of expensive drugs and medicines in medical practice, considerable hardship could arise. The people who would be affected were those of limited means who had to provide expensive medicines for lengthy periods for themselves and their families, or those who had to provide for a course of treatment extending over a long period. It was important to ensure that such persons were made aware that, though they did not for all purposes fall within the category defined in section 14 of the Health Act, 1955, they could apply to the Health Authority for a supply of those medicines free for so long as they were unable to provide them from their own resources. The Minister indicated that many health authorities had recognised and met that hardship. The secretary (Mr. J. J. Nolan) said that the practice had been put into operation by Dublin Health Authority some time ago.

Hospital Pharmacists

CALL FOR A STANDARDS BUREAU

A MEETING of pharmacists employed in hospitals and dispensaries in Thurles, on December 3, heard the chairman of the Association of Hospital and Public Pharmacists (Mr. R. J. Power) announce that the Association intended to approach the Minister for Health to secure the introduction of a national formulary. Any proposed extension of the Health Act, he said, must involve greater use of the services of pharmacists in all branches, and the formulary was an essential factor in the economic administration of the service. "In view of our proposed entry into the Common Market, and the possible influx of drugs of continental origin, it is in the public interest that a bureau of standards should be established. Irish drug manufacturers will have to meet intense competition, and pharmacists must have a standard set by the State to help them in their position as true pharmacists," he said. Mr. Power also stressed the necessity of making a State grant for research.

THE NORTH

Ulster Chemists

DECEMBER MEETING OF EXECUTIVE

MR. J. Paul was elected *President* of the Ulster Chemists' Association at the monthly meeting of the Executive Committee held in Belfast on December 5. Mr. W. J. Moffett was in the chair. Mr. N. A. J. Anderson (Portadown), was elected to succeed Mr. Paul as *Vice-president*. Other appointments were:—*Honorary Treasurer*, Mr. J. F. Rankin (re-elected); *Honorary Secretaries*, Miss C. B. Abernethy and Mr. J. K. McGregor; *Honorary Auditors*, Messrs. J. A. McRoberts and R. C. McCullough; *Representatives on Joint Council*, Messrs. J. Paul, N. A. J. Anderson, W. E. Cooper, T. I. O'Rourke; *Action Committee*, Messrs. W. J. Moffett, J. A. Brown, C. L. Gordon-Rattie; *Representatives to Belfast Chamber of Trade*, Messrs. J. A. Brown, W. L. McDonnell; *Representative to Ulster Tourist Development Association*, Mr. A. T. Hardy (re-elected); *Representatives to Northern Ireland Chemists' Benevolent Fund Committee*, Messrs. W. J. Moffett and J. C. Wellwood. Mr. Paul thanked the Executive Committee for the honour they had conferred upon him by electing him president, and on the proposal of Mr. J. A. Brown, a vote of thanks to Mr. W. J. Moffett (the outgoing president), for his service to the Association during his two years of office was passed with acclamation. A letter received from the secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland (Mr. W. Gorman) was considered which intimated that the Council was at present considering plans for alterations to the Society's premises, and that office accommodation might become available for the Ulster Chemists' Association. He asked if the Association would be interested in obtaining the office accommodation. It was unanimously agreed that the Association should take advantage of the Council's offer and that members of the Executive Committee should meet the Council for discussion at a suitable time.

U.C.A. Dinner

NEW PRESIDENT WELCOMED

A DINNER to welcome the new president of the Ulster Chemists' Association (Mr. J. Paul), was held at Dunmurry, on December 12. The members of the Executive Committee, their ladies and the following guests were present: Mr. T. W. Currie (chairman, Local Pharmaceutical Committee) and Mrs. Currie; Mr. J. H. Galbraith (chairman, Associates' Section, U.C.A.); Mr. J. N. Patterson (pharmacy inspector) and Mrs. Patterson; Mr. R. C. McCullough (auditor) and Mrs. McCullough. After dinner a film taken of the members attending the recent U.C.A. conference at Portrush was shown by Mr. W. H. Boyd. The Toast to "the President" was proposed by Mr. J. C. Wellwood, and the Toast to the outgoing president (Mr. W. J. Moffett) was proposed by Miss C. B. Abernethy. Mr. J. K. McGregor proposed the Toast to "The Guests" to which Mr. T. W. Currie and Mr. J. N. Patterson responded.

IRISH BREVITIES**THE REPUBLIC**

FIRST prize-winners in a recent Gala mink mutation nation-wide competition were presented with mink ties by the managing director, Gala of London. Ltd. (Mr. S. H. Picker) at a reception in Dublin on December 8. The recipients were Miss Jeanette Taylor, Cork; Miss Doreen McDonagh, Dublin; Mrs. K. Deery, Galway; and Mrs. A. Kelly, Dublin. The assistants' selling method, not the quantity sold, weighed most with the judge.

THE annual Benevolent Fund dance of Limerick Chemists' Social Committee held at Shannon on November 30 was attended by the vice-president of the College of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland (Mr. T. B. O'Sullivan), treasurer (Mr. D. J. Kennelly) and registrar (Mr. J. G. Coleman). Representing the Irish Drug Association were the president (Mr. A. C. Hennessy), who was accompanied by Mrs. Hennessy. Mr. M. Power (chairman of the Committee) welcomed the guests.

NEWS IN BRIEF

TWELVE European and Eastern Mediterranean countries were represented at a conference on leprosy convened at Istanbul in October by the World Health Organisation.

A WORLD Health Organisation report on quarantinable diseases notified during 1960 shows a reduction in plague and smallpox. Cholera increased slightly, and recent outbreaks in West Bengal and Calcutta are likely to raise further the 1961 figures for that disease.

FOR the second year in succession the ladies' team of St. Mary's Hospital emerged victorious in a medical students' inter-hospitals London-to-Brighton stroll sponsored by A. Wander, Ltd., 42 Upper Grosvenor Street, London, W.1.

WORK on the new chemistry block for Manchester University is expected to start early next year. To be built in two sections at a cost of about £1 million, the building should be ready for the commencement of the academic year in 1964.

AN international research institute of rheumatology costing between £100,000 and £200,000 is being established in London, it was announced by Lord Inman (chairman of the Charing Cross Hospital group) on December 6. The project is being financed privately.

OVERSEAS NEWS**NEW ZEALAND****Drug Bill "Staggering"**

THE Minister of Health for New Zealand (Mr. N. L. Shelton) has appealed to the country's doctors to help keep the drug bill as low as possible. The cost for the year would probably be, he said, considerably in excess of £8 millions (in 1960 the drug bill amounted to £6,798,157). Mr. Shelton said that, though he was conscious of the great benefits that the money spent on modern treatment had brought, the increases in the cost could not be ignored. The figures were "staggering."

TOPICAL REFLECTIONS

By Xrayser

The ebbing year

That week of unreality and bliss which comes between Christmas and New Year is drawing to a close—unreality in that, following a surfeit of unaccustomed good cheer in one form or another, one feels tolerant towards all men and all things. There is even a fleeting tendency to flirt with New Year resolutions of the kind that can be passed by a committee of one, and put into action—at least temporarily—with a drive and single-minded purpose that require no public-relations campaign for success. It is unfortunate that the initial impetus is soon lost, and that inertia sets in early, but at the moment I am still in the happy state in which I can offer the compliments of the season even to Government departments and Ministries. Angels and Ministers of Health defend us! And to to a New Year in which I hope pharmacy will have fewer disappointments than in 1961. There may even be a situation where "noble statesmen do not itch to interfere in matters which they do not understand," as the Earl of Mountarat keeps emphasising at the Savoy Theatre in London just now. (I don't know if the noble earl had in mind such matters as professional discretion, Ministers of Health and two shilling charges.) Several valuable lessons have been there for the learning during 1961, and the most important is that the Pharmaceutical Society is the guardian of the professional interests and standards of its members, and it must never be hesitant in saying so. Another important matter is that *Jenkin v. the Pharmaceutical Society* has been taken down from the shelf and dusted, and has been found to be much less cramping than had been thought. A third point is that it is now being recognised—belatedly, and with perhaps insufficient enthusiasm—that pharmacists are all pharmacists, whether employing or employed. I look for progress in that direction.

Malt

Your article on the manufacture and present-day outlet of extract of malt brought home to me that the sale of malt and its preparations is not at all what it once was, but it seems reasonable to expect a falling off in public demand in the light of increased consumption of vitamin pills and capsules of one kind or another. The heyday of the pharmaceutical turnover in malt and cod-liver oil, or in cod-liver oil emulsion, was before the discovery of the vitamins or their concentration into small capsules or pellets, when the general thought was, in an empirical kind of way, that winter was a good time to build up the constitution with substantial additions to the diet. I have recollections, in my earlier days, of malt being kept in bulk and filled into jars in the pharmacy—an operation which I am sure would have passed into oblivion but for one quite unforgettable morning when the staff was "birdlimed" by the remissness of a junior apprentice who had gone home the previous evening without taking the elementary precaution of turning off the tap.

Last mention this year

For the last time this year I am going to make reference to the National Health Service, as seen in the House of Commons. The Parliamentary report on p. 652 contains a fascinating paragraph under the heading "Prescription Charges." Referring to the effects of the charges, Mrs. J. S. Butler said: "Is it not time that this money-wasting, time-wasting and temper-fraying stupidity was removed altogether?" (One gathers, from the form of words, that the honourable lady disapproves.) Mr. Powell (Minister of Health) replied that he had no reason to believe that it was wasting money. He appears not to have heard his questioner's reference to time-wasting, nor was there any evidence in the answer to indicate that the phrase "temper-fraying stupidity" had found the correct wave-length. Alternatively, one can only assume that the Minister heard the whole of the question, found it impossible to agree that there was any waste of money, but signified, by his silence, that he concurred with the opinion implicit in the form the question took, that there was time-wasting and that the stupidity was temper-fraying.

Through Australasia and the United States

COLOURFUL "TRAVELOGUE" AT BLOOMSBURY SQUARE

AN appreciative audience in London on November 23 heard DR. W. MITCHELL (chief chemist, Stafford Allen & Sons, Ltd.) give an illustrated account of a journey he had undertaken through Australasia and the United States.

Two Main Objectives

He said that two main objectives of his journey had been to attend a symposium on the chemistry of natural products, held in Australia under the auspices of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, and to visit New Guinea for discussions with the Administration there. He had also taken the opportunity to deal with various matters of interest to his company *en route* to Australia, and in the United States of America on his return journey. His first stop had been at Athens, of which he showed slides of the Temple of Zeus, and of a sentry at the Royal Palace. The speaker next showed slides of the handsome central business area of Singapore and Melbourne, where the first part of the symposium was held. While in Melbourne he had taken the opportunity to visit the city's new school of pharmacy, and had met Mr. Kent, the registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria. The school, housed in a new building recently completed, was "very handsome, with excellent lectures theatres and laboratories."

Dr. Mitchell's next slide showed the Academy of Sciences at Canberra, where Sir Alexander Todd delivered his presidential address to the symposium. His next shots were of views of Sydney. Explaining that it was time to show something botanical, Dr. Mitchell put on a slide showing a close-up of an Indian coral tree taken in the Botanic Garden in Sydney. Turning to "something really pharmaceutical," he showed a shot of Professor Adrian Albert, now installed at Canberra as Professor of organic chemistry. Another illustration showed the new chemistry department at Sydney University. At Castle Farm near Sydney, the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation maintained plots of many species of eucalyptus. Frequently two eucalyptus trees of the same species, morphologically indistinguishable and growing side by side, had been found to yield essential oils of totally different compositions. The same applied to alkaloid-containing plants such as *duboisia*: one plant would yield hyoscyamine and little or no hyoscyne, its similar neighbour hyoscyne and practically no hyoscyamine. There was some evidence that the composition of the alkaloid content even of individual plants could change from year to year. On the Great Barrier Reef Dr. Mitchell had found one plant he recognised instantly, the subject of the first monograph in the B.P.C., 1934, and earlier issues: *Abrus precatorius*, the fruits of which were the so-called jequirity or prayer beads, with a characteristic scarlet and black coloration, and very toxic.

In New Guinea the administration



Pyrethrum flourishes in the sandy soil of Alyura in New Guinea.

was anxious to develop new cash crops suitable for native cultivation. One possible crop was pyrethrum, and that was one reason why he had been invited to visit the island. Dr. Mitchell showed test plots of pyrethrum at Alyura and individual pyrethrum plants in a test bed. It remained to be seen whether present attempts at commercial cultivation would succeed.

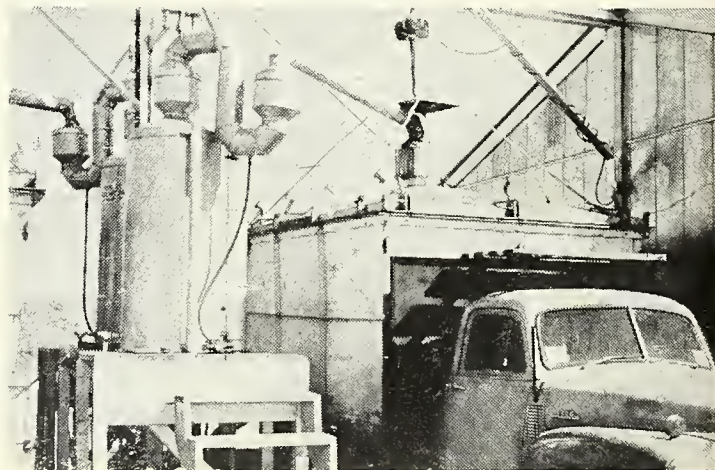


Latex tapping marks on a rubber tree at Sogori.

He had been taken to see an extensive and successful rubber plantation at Sogori, and his next slides showed a tree that had recently been tapped and a factory at which the latex was precipitated and collected in the form of sheet.

The speaker described a talk on pyrethrum he had given in New Guinea to the Papua and New Guinea Scientific Society which met regularly in Port Moresby. Flying on to Brisbane, he had there taken a picture which was of particular interest to him on account of researches carried out more years ago than he cared to remember on minor alkaloids of *Duboisia myoporoides*: it was a close-up picture of the plant in flower in Mount Tamborin National Park in Queensland.

On the return journey via the United States he had journeyed to Oregon, where considerable quantities of peppermint oil were produced and he showed a peppermint still consisting of a lorry-mounted tank, with removable head and hinged end, that was driven out into the fields, charged with recently harvested peppermint, and driven back to the distillation area. There a still head was fixed and connected to the condensers and a



Peppermint oil being distilled in Oregon, U.S.A.

steam supply coupled to perforated pipes contained in the base. The peppermint oil was separated from the water in equipment housed in the adjacent building. After completion of steam distillation, the lorry was driven out into the fields again and the spent material tipped on to the ground to act as fertiliser. Also of pharmaceutical interest in Oregon was a plant for the manufacture of *santonin* from locally grown *artemisia*. The plant had, however, recently ceased production, "the advent of piperazine having slashed the market for *santonin*."

Discussion

MR. H. S. GRAINGER (president of the Society) asked the first question after the chairman had invited discussion: what impressions the speaker had gathered of the extent and rapidity of industrial, and in particular pharmaceutical, developments in Australia. To

DR. J. M. ROWSON asked for more elucidation of Dr. Mitchell's remark that in Australia morphologically identical forms of alkaloid-containing plants such as *duboisia* often possessed a distinct and annually variable drug content. DR. MITCHELL said he had no experience of the phenomenon, but believed what he had been told by the plantation workers.

CONFERENCE REPORTS ON PROTECTION OF CROPS

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{O} \\ \text{C}_2\text{H}_5\text{O} \end{array} \text{P}(=\text{S})(\text{O})-\text{C} \begin{array}{l} \diagup \text{CH}=\text{N}=\text{CH} \\ \diagdown \text{N}=\text{CH} \end{array}$$

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M. & G. GREEN, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. To carry on the business of chemists, etc. Directors: Mervyn Green, M.P.S., and Gillian S. Green, R.O.: 29 Ebury Bridge Road, London, S.W.1.

J. WATTIE (CHEMISTS), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £10,000. To carry on the business of chemists, etc. Directors: Leonard Cox and Enid B. Slater, R.O.: 64 Bath Road, Wolverhampton.

EPPS THATCHER & CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. To carry on the business of chemists, druggists, etc. Directors: Ralph H. Bennett and Laura E. Pond, M.P.S. R.O.: 54 Welbeck Street, London, W.1.

M. SARNER (CHEMISTS), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. To carry on the business of manufacturing and general chemists, etc. Directors: Marcus Sarnar, M.P.S., and Irene M. Friedlander, R.O.: 16 The Grove, London, N.W.11.

ENTERPRISING PHARMACY, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. To carry on the business of wholesale and retail chemists and druggists, etc. Subscribers: Stanley H. Lucas and Francis A. Dean, 6 Surrey Street, London, W.C.2.

AGFA PROCESSING, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £120,000. To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in all kinds of photographic materials, R.O.: Deer Park Road, Wimbledon Factory Estate, London, S.W.19.

E. MARTIN (CHEMICALS), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £1,000. To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in chemicals, etc. Eleanor P. Martin, 12 Harley Court, High Road, London, N.20, is the first director.

F.P. SUPPLIES (POSTAL), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £150. To carry on the business of chemists and druggists, etc. Directors: Anthony P. W. Hawkins, Cicely A. Hawkins and Joseph E. Drew, R.O.: 39 Bell Street, Reigate, Surrey.

G. B. EAGLE, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £5,000. To carry on the business of dispensing chemists, etc. Directors: Frank Boulter, Ruth E. Boulter, Peter J. Farmer, M.P.S., and Janet M. Farmer, R.O.: 1 Clifford Street, South Wigston, Leics.

GEORGE F. EDWARDS (CHEMISTS), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £1,000. To carry on the business of chemists, etc. Directors: George F. Edwards, M.P.S., and Elizabeth M. Edwards, R.O.: 19 Worcester Lane, Pedmore, Stourbridge, Wores.

HIRTZ & CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £1,000. To carry on the business of dealers in medical and surgical instruments. Secretary: D. C. Wren, 17 Sheppey Road, Loose, Court, Maidstone. Also HICOMED CO., LTD., with similar particulars.

JAMES A. GRAY, LTD. (P.C.).—Registered in Edinburgh: 61 Main Street, Wishaw, chemists. Capital £25,000. Directors: James A. Gray, M.P.S., and Marion S. C. Gray, 9 Walter Street, Wishaw.

JOHN KELSEY (CHEMISTS), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. To carry on the business of retailing and manufacturing chemists, etc. Directors: John P. Kelsey and Cuthbert O. Harrison, R.O.: Radford Brewery, Leamington Spa, Warwick.

LEEMING ROAD CHEMIST, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. To carry on the business of wholesale and retail chemists, etc. Directors: Jean S. Woods and Leonard V. McIlhush, R.O.: 197A Shenly Road, Borcham Wood, Herts.

MARDION PRODUCTS, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in chemicals, drugs, medicines, etc. Director: Ian J. Sinclair, 37 St. James Drive, London, S.W.17.

PARFUMS MARQUAY, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £1,000. To carry on the business of dealers in all kinds of cosmetics, etc. Directors: John D. Jennings and James G. Spalton, R.O.: 9 Union Court, London, E.C.2.

PRACTICAL PHARMACY, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. To carry on the business of chemists, etc. Subscribers: Stanley H. Lucas and Francis A. Dean, 6 Surrey Street, London, W.C.2.

VINEYARD PHARMACY, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £2,500. To carry on the business of dispensing chemists, etc. Directors: Jacob Schedrin and Joan M. Schedrin, 5 Weech Road, London, N.W.6.

WRINGTON CHEMISTS, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £1,500. To carry on the business of wholesale and retail chemists, druggists, etc. Directors: Robert Towle, M.P.S., and Edith A. Priest, R.O.: Silver Street, Wrington, Bristol.

PETER LOMAS (CHEMISTS), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £1,000. To acquire the business carried on by Radcliffe's Chemists, Ltd., at Oldham, etc. Directors: Harold Lomas, Leah Lomas and Peter N. Lomas, M.P.S. R.O.: 586 Ashton Road, Oldham.

GEO. O. MADELEY, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £10,000. To acquire the business of a chemist and druggist carried on by G. O. Madeley, M.P.S., Town End Pharmacy, White Lane, Gleadless, Sheffield. Directors: George O. Madeley and Catherine Madeley.

WAUN PHARMACY, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £400. To acquire the business of a chemist carried on at 21 Carmel Street, Gwaun-cae-Gurwen, etc. Directors: Gwynfryn Williams, M.P.S., and Arthur L. Acraman, M.P.S. R.O.: 30 Darwin Road, Port Talbot, Glam.

GRANGE LABORATORIES, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in pharmaceutical products, etc. Directors: Frederick W. Harris, M.P.S., and Patricia M. Harris, M.P.S. R.O.: 120 Dib Lane, Leeds, 8.

M. GREEN (AUCKLAND PHARMACY), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £1,000. To carry on the business of manufacturing and general chemists, etc. Directors: Michael Green, M.P.S., and Rosalind Green, R.O.: 40 Oxford Street, London, W.1.

I. H. WILLIAMS (TURNPIKE), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £2,000. To carry on the business of manufacturing and general chemists, etc. Directors: Iorwerth H. Williams, M.P.S., Clara J. Williams and Frederick G. Crapnell, R.O.: 10 Turnpike Lane, London, N.8.

F. J. M. CALDER, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £1,000. To carry on the business of wholesale or retail chemists, etc. Subscribers: Francis J. M. Calder, M.P.S., Arthur Waterman and Francis J. M. Calder, R.O.: 57 Notting Hill Gate, London, W.11.

A. WANDER (EXPORT), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. To carry on the business of manufacturers and suppliers of dietetic food products, tonic foods, etc. Directors to be appointed. R.O.: 42 Upper Grosvenor Street, London, W.1.

CHEMIGIV, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. To carry on the business of wholesale and retail chemists, etc. Subscribers: Jean Herbert and Thomas A. Herbert, 156 Strand, London, W.C.2. Also CHEMIWALK, LTD. Particulars are similar.

EYNON & LANE, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £1,000. To acquire the business of analytical chemists carried on by Eynon & Lane at London, E.C.3, etc. Directors: Jack H. Defrates, Laurence R. F. Forsyth and Douglas Eynon, R.O.: 7 Idol Lane, London, E.C.3.

FRANK HEAP, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £6,000. To acquire the business of dispensing and photographic chemists carried on by F. Heap at Elland, etc. Directors: Frank Heap, Gertrude M. Heap

and Gerald F. Heap, M.P.S. R.O.: 72 Southgate, Elland, Yorks.

H. M. DURRANT (CHEMISTS), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £5,000. To acquire business of a chemist carried on at 145 Chatsworth Road, Chesterfield, as "S. A. Mappin," etc. Directors: Hector M. Durrant, M.P.S., and Samuel A. Mappin, M.P.S.

HENRY BARLOW & SONS (MANCHESTER), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £1,000. To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in chemicals, gases, etc. Directors: Edward J. R. Lovelock, The Kennels, Over Peover, and Frederick G. Wild.

NORMAN BARKER & CO., LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in chemicals, medicines, etc. Directors: Norman M. Barker, Francis N. Wilson and David A. Read, R.O.: Manor Chemical Works, Clopton, Suffolk.

POND & MADDISON, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £3,500. To carry on the business of wholesale or retail chemists, etc. Directors: Alexander Innes, M.P.S., and Muriel E. Innes, R.O.: 406 Bank Chambers, 329 High Holborn, London, W.C.1.

R. H. AXWORTHY, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £100. To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in therapeutic substances of all kinds, animal vaccines, etc. Directors are: Roger Axworthy and Clara M. Axworthy, R.O.: 45 Castle Street, Reading.

E. R. & P. SUMMERFIELD (CHEMISTS), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £1,000. To acquire the business of chemists and opticians carried on by E. R. Summerfield at Birmingham, etc. Directors: Edward R. Summerfield, M.P.S., and Phyllis Summerfield, M.P.S. R.O.: 70 Station Road, Birmingham, 24.

R. H. BANKES (CHEMISTS), LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £2,500. To acquire the business of retail chemist carried on by R. H. Bankes at 29 Compstall Road, Romiley, etc. Directors: Reginald H. Bankes, M.P.S., Alice Bankes, M.P.S., and Eric Wharton, M.P.S. R.O.: 61 Brown Street, Manchester, 2.

MAINPRIZE & WOOD, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £10,000. To acquire the business of dispensing and veterinary chemists carried on by Norman H. Mainprize, M.P.S., at Otley, Yorks, etc. Directors: Norman H. Mainprize, M.P.S., and Cyril Wood, M.P.S. R.O.: 35 Kirkgate, Otley, Yorks.

PAIN & POWELL, LTD. (P.C.).—Capital £4,700. To acquire the business of a chemist and druggist carried on by A. Beveridge (Holdings), Ltd., 52 High Street, Sevenoaks. Directors: John O. Macdonald, M.P.S. (director of A. Beveridge (Holdings), Ltd.), Phyllis I. Macdonald and Allan W. Pain, M.P.S. (director of A. Beveridge (Holdings), Ltd.).

LEGAL REPORTS

Grew Indian Hemp

A "YOUTHFUL and amateurish experiment" was the description applied by the Guildford magistrate after charges of possessing Indian hemp were heard against a seventeen-year-old girl and two art students. Miss Barbara Anne Lohnes, Rydes Hill Road, Guildford, was put on probation for two years. It was stated that she had received the hemp from Michael John Robinson, Manor Crescent, Surbiton, who had grown hemp plants from seed in his father's garden, and from Michael Wayne Hedgecoe, Guildford Road, Bookham, who had cultivated some plants in a field. Hedgecoe admitted selling hemp leaves for four shillings each. He pleaded guilty and was put on probation for two years. Robinson was given a conditional discharge.

COMPANY NEWS

BOWMANS CHEMICALS, LTD.—Final dividend, $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., making $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. (last year interest of 5 per cent. was followed by three-for-ten scrip issue and final of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on increased capital). Profit £25,718 (£27,361) after tax, £13,195 (£31,134). Depreciation £20,847 (£18,607) and deferred repairs provision, nil (£10,000). To capital reserve, £2,448 (£2,176).

MEAD JOHNSON & CO., U.S.A.—The directors said in Chicago on December 18 that they would recommend a three-for-one split of the common and preferred stocks and intended to increase the dividend rate on the common. The split proposals are subject to stockholders approval at the annual meeting. The directors intend to pay 68 cents annually on the split common, equal to \$2.04 a share on current shares, on which 45 cents quarterly, or \$1.80 annually, has been paid.

DISTILLERS CO., LTD.—Mr. J. S. Hunter (at present assistant managing director (commercial) of D.C.L. chemical division) is to be transferred to assist the chairman of the D.C.L. chemical group at 21 St. James's Square, London, S.W.1, with effect from January 1, 1962. He will remain a division director of the D.C.L. chemical division (but without executive responsibility) and will be appointed an alternate director of British Hydrocarbon Chemicals, Ltd., Grange Chemicals, Ltd., Forth Chemicals, Ltd. and Murgatroyd's Salt and Chemical Co., Ltd.

BUSINESS CHANGES

J. & E. ATKINSON, LTD., are transferring their sales office and administration to 449 London Road, Isleworth, Middlesex (telephone: Isleworth 1266) on January 1, 1962.

PERSONALITIES

MR. ARTHUR "TOM" MARWOOD, who has been the Midlands representative for Solport Bros., Ltd., since 1942, retires from active business at the end of 1961. A farewell party given in his honour on December 15 was attended by twenty-five of his colleagues, all of whom had served the company for over twenty-five years.

SIR HARRY MELVILLE, F.R.S. (secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research) has been appointed a member of the Research Council (Council for Scientific and Industrial Research). In making the appointment, Lord Hailsham (Minister of Science) gives recognition to Sir Harry's "notable services to D.S.I.R." The appointment is personal to Sir Harry and does not mean that future secretaries of D.S.I.R. will automatically become members of the Research Council. As secretary and head of the Department, he has served the Research Council in that capacity without being a full member since 1956. Previously Sir Harry was Mason professor of chemistry at Birmingham University (1948-56) and professor of chemistry at Aberdeen University before that. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society at the age of thirty-three.

Correspondence

Letters when received must bear the name and address of the sender, not necessarily for publication. The Editor does not hold himself responsible for the views expressed.

Dichotomy ?

SIR,—It would appear that there are two factions in the Central N.H.S. (Contractors) Committee. Mr. Howells ("I stand for complete withdrawal, if necessary") leads the group that stands for action. They controlled the June conference, which was lively and militant and gave heart to all contractors up and down the country. Mr. Graham ("I got a penny a script in 1951 from a woman who wears a kimono and holds the black belt for Judo") leads the other. This is the group which dominated the conference recently, a conference that left the contractors feeling that the fight was finished and that all that pharmacists would obtain would be more cuts from the Ministry. If this assumption is true—Mr. Howells' complete silence at the conference would seem to be evidence in support of it—then the timing of Messrs. Boots' statement on their refusal to withdraw achieves a sinister significance. It was timed to make sure of the defeat of the action group (Mr. Howells' group) in the Central N.H.S. Committee, and to make sure of the ascendancy of Mr. Graham's group at this conference. Mr. Graham certainly knew of Messrs. Boots' statement a week before publication. He told a group of us on the Friday, a week before the publication of the *Financial Times* "Do not count on the multiples' support." When pressed for further details he said "I just wouldn't count on it if I were you." It is time, then, for someone to make public how this split has arisen, and just who comprises each faction. We want to know, we need to know whom to get rid of. We, the contractors, desire to know; it is our profession; it is our livelihood. This is too big an issue for the old team spirit of the Contractors' Committee to prevail. Come on, Mr. Howells, we look to you.

J. P. KERR,
Newcastle-on-Tyne

As a Dentist Sees Things

SIR,—As a dentist beset with the problems affecting my own profession I have been following the campaign of the pharmacists with interest and admiration. I have had the opportunity to study the economic and work-conditions factors that have resulted in a determined stand by the National Pharmaceutical Union. To my surprise I found that the problems affecting pharmacists and dentists follow a similar pattern. The Ministry's attitude may be summed up in two words: "Use" and "abuse." Personally I would cheer a walk out by the pharmacists from the National Health Service, for the public would rock on their heels when they faced the astronomical cost of drugs! The Labour cry of "Shame" when prescription fees went up to 2s. would be laughable by comparison. It is ridiculous that the professional classes, especially those engaged in the Health Service, should be denied a fair share in

Mr. Macmillan's "You've never had it so good" Britain. We've just never had it! That is even more remarkable considering that the country can afford to treat non-insurance-paying aliens under the scheme. The trend of future events is shown by the convening of a Dental Rates Study Group to compile a works study survey on dental operations. Naturally I avidly read the result of the pharmacists' work study in 1958 and, being a mere mortal, confess to being baffled by the algebraic formula evolved. I have no doubt that a similar formula will be devised for the dental profession to warrant new cuts, the fact that since 1948 the dentists have, in order to combat the rise in cost of living, had a net cut of 15.3 per cent. being irrelevant. Indeed the Ministry of Health thinks so highly of professional people that those dentists who can be coerced into leaving their practices and serving on the study group are being paid the princely sum of £10 a week. One thing is apparent, though. The professions engaged in the National Health Service must, and I feel will, liaise, confer and present a united front to the Ministry of Health and indeed the country. For without us there just wouldn't be a National Health Service.

L. B. LUX, L.D.S., R.C.S.,
Hale, Altrincham

Red Cross as Symbol

SIR,—I am investigating the use of the red cross as a medical and pharmaceutical symbol before and after its adoption by the Geneva Convention in 1864. The red cross was used as a plague symbol in the Great Plague of London and in several earlier plagues, and there is evidence of its use by apothecaries and by chemists and druggists long before 1864. I would be most grateful to be put on the track of any references to the use of the red cross as a symbol or trade mark in connection with either medicine or pharmacy. Copies of trade marks, advertisements or bill-heads would be particularly useful, as would information on streets named Red Cross other than those in London, Bristol, Leicester and Liverpool. The use of the red cross also has been connected with the following and any information would be welcomed:—

Red Cross Light Cure Institute, Brighton; Red Cross Powder Co., Birmingham; John Young & Son, druggists, Cheapside against Bow Church, London; Gerrard Colley, apothecary, High Street, Dublin; William Jones, druggist and chemist, Covent Garden; Richard Staveland, druggist and chymist, Fenchurch Street, London; James & George Webster, druggist, Leadenhall Street, London; Noakes & Co., wholesale and retail chemists, Snow Hill, London; Red Cross Germicide Co.; Edward B. Kendall, chemist, Coney Street, York; Henry & George Sisson, Ludgate Street, London; Red Cross Soap Extract Co., Camberwell, London; Red Cross Drug Store, Fulham, London; Thomas Brumfields, druggist, Poultry, London; Le Grand, perfumer, 1820; R. J. Galloway, chemist, 1864.

T. D. WHITTET,
University College Hospital,
Gower Street, London, W.C.1

NEW PRODUCTS AND PACKS

Narcotic With Stimulant.—A new preparation, Mortha, of Ward, Blenkinsop & Co., Ltd., Fulton House, Empire Way, Wembley, Middlesex, is a combination of morphine tartrate with tetrahydroaminacrine, is claimed to have the advantages over morphine that its use is virtually unaccompanied by the narcosis of drowsiness, that it avoids respiratory depression, and reduces the addiction hazard. The tetrahydroaminacrine (THA) is a respiratory and central-nervous-system stimulant and powerful anticholinesterase. For parenteral use it is available in boxes of five 2-mil ampoules and 30-mil multidose rubber-capped vials of No. 1 (15 mgm. each of morphine tartrate and THA) and No. 2 (30 mgm. of morphine tartrate, 15 mgm. of THA); for oral use it is presented in containers of 100 and 500 tablets each containing 30 mgm. of morphine tartrate and 15 mgm. of THA.

Hair-lacquer Remover.—T. L. Benton & Co., Ltd., 186 Seven Sisters Road, London, N.7, are marketing a new French hair-lacquer remover with lanolised conditioner, De-lac.

Sachet Variant.—Bayer Products division of Winthrop Group, Ltd., Winthrop House, Surbiton-upon-Thames, Surrey, announce that their

product Lenium, containing Lorithidol and selenium sulphide for the treatment of dandruff and seborrhœic dermatitis of the scalp, is now available in sachets in display outer of 3 doz. and in broken-outer dozens.

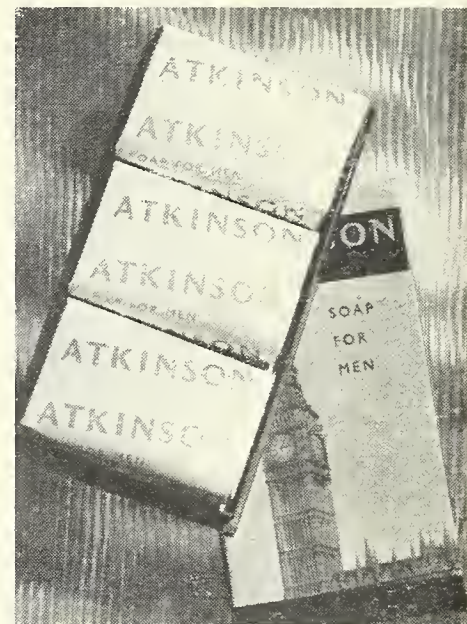


A Wide-mouthed Pack.—Fassett & Johnson, Ltd., 86 Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C.1, distributors of the Dentural denture cleanser manufactured by Pharmaceutical Products, Ltd. (a subsidiary of Savory & Moore, Ltd., Standard Works, Lawrence Road, London, N.15), state that it is now in the new wide-mouthed pack illustrated. The colour scheme is in red and white.

Foundation, Powder and Moisturiser.—Claimed an entirely new make-up, "Light and Lovely" by Coty (England), Ltd., 10 Bruton Street, London, W.1, is an instant make-up

claimed ideal for both dry and greasy complexions. It comprises foundation, powder and moisturiser in a single tube, and is available in two pink (pink crystal and French rose), two creamy (pearl satin and honeycomb) and two warm tones (Cappuccino and Toledo tan).

Soap for Men.—J. & E. Atkinson, Ltd., 24 Old Bond Street, London, W.1,



have added a toilet soap to their range of products for men. The soap is available in single tablet or in box of three.

A Fine-particle Variant.—A new fine-particle form of griseofulvin has been developed by Glaxo Laboratories, Ltd., Greenford, Middlesex, and is being marketed under the name Griseovin FP. Taken orally, the fine-particle griseofulvin produces blood levels equal to those obtained with the original form, but from half the dosage. The cost of treatment may well, therefore, be cut by as much as 50 per cent. The reduced particle size of Griseovin FP substantially increases its absorption. The new product is presented in containers of 100 and 1,000 125-mgm. tablets. In all respects but the particle size of the antibiotic, Griseovin FP is identical with the original Griseovin, which continues to be available as 250-mgm. tablets.



Left: A new sachet pack for Lenium dandruff treatment (Bayer Products division of Winthrop Group, Ltd., Surbiton-on-Thames, Surrey). Right: New display and demonstration unit for the Remington Lektronic shaver, shown with cord and shaver. The unit may be removed for demonstration purposes and when replaced may be immediately recharged so that it remains at all times ready to provide "full powered" shaving. (Remington Electric Shaver, Ltd., 26 Kensington High Street, London, W.8.)



GIFT ITEMS FOR THE TOILET COUNTER: At left: Powder compact, cigarette case, lipstick container, automatic mirror, pillbox and comb in matching designs and presented in various combinations in silk-lined gift boxes, also by Messrs. Brown. At right: A new addition to the 1962 range of Mascot dressing-table sets offered by A. S. Brown & Co. (Mfg.), Ltd., 79 Coborn Road, London, E.3. The design is of Florentine embossed leather on mock insert.



ONE HUNDRED AND SEVEN GOLD PINS: Members of the staff of Parke, Davis & Co. photographed with heads of departments on the occasion of the award of long-service pins.

MANUFACTURERS' ACTIVITIES

Long-service Presentations.—Parke, Davis & Co. Staines Road, Hounslow, recently awarded gold pins to 107 long-service members of their staff, for lengths of service varying from ten to forty-five years. At a reception to mark the occasion Mr. L. O. Smith (general manager) congratulated the individuals concerned, but the actual presentations were made by heads of departments.

Laboratories Completed.—The furnishing and equipping of new laboratories at Stoke Court, Stoke Poges, Bucks. for Miles Laboratories, Ltd., has recently been completed. The laboratories are to be used for a basic research programme to supplement the research

carried out by Miles Laboratories, Inc. in the United States. They provide facilities for fundamental work in chemistry, biochemistry and pharmacology. Features of the laboratory include the use of disinfectant at 60°C for sterilising animal cages. That obviates the need for the usual large autoclaves or the introduction of accelerated in-

put air to the fume cupboards to reduce heat loss from the laboratory. In addition the multiple vacuum outlet system is provided by recirculated high-pressure water, which was found to be the most economical method of achieving the degree of vacuum required while at the same time avoiding heavy water wastage. Scientific Installations, Ltd., 1 Salisbury Square, London, E.C.4, carried out the work.

TRADE NOTES

Distribution Change.—The Bayer Products division of Winthrop Group, Ltd., and the Crookes Laboratories, Ltd., announce that, from January 1, 1962, Kavol and Kavol plus canine vaccines are being marketed in the United Kingdom and Northern Ireland by the Crookes Laboratories, Ltd., Park Royal, London, N.W.10.

Fumigation Quantities.—To ensure that maximum use is made of their improved sulphur candle, the research department of Jeyes Sales, Ltd., River Road, Barking, Essex, have issued the following additional recommendations as to quantities required for specific applications:—Fumigation of sick rooms, 1-lb. candle per 750 cu. ft.; fumigation of greenhouses, 1-lb. candle per 1,000 cu. ft.

Stocktaking and More.—The expanding business of Blundell & Co. (now "Ltd."), 538 Forest Road, London, E.17, are using more tape recorders and a cash register analysis machine that enables them to transcribe from tape to analysis in one operation. Until recently the company's expansion was mainly in Scotland, but its reputation has latterly been creeping south across the border. The service has also been increased beyond stocktaking into answering business queries and problems.

Gift Industry Prospects.—In London recently Mr. Elkan Simons (chairman of the International Gifts Fair) recounted the results of a series of trade mission visits to Europe on behalf of the Fair and the industry. Since the 1939-45 war, he said, the British gifts industry had expanded to the extent of exporting to a value of £100 millions per year from virtually nothing in 1948. A key factor had been the annual International Gifts Fair. At Blackpool

in 1960 about 25,000 home and overseas buyers had visited the Fair, and the estimated daily orders taken were between £1½ and £2 millions. To sell abroad, manufacturers must quote prices in the buyer's currency and c.i.f. (not f.o.b.). A "living concept of design" must be developed. The increased range of credits and lower interest rates recently introduced by the Export Credits Guarantee Department were steps in the right direction, but he suggested that the Treasury should take a look again at the problem of purchase tax. He believed a system of taxation could be evolved more advantageous to the country in terms of revenue and in providing a boost for exports.



INDUSTRIAL FIRST-AID TROPHY: Silver trophy, to be known as the Elastoplast industrial first-aid award, to be awarded annually for an outstanding achievement in industrial first aid. Presented by Smith & Nephew, Ltd., the trophy is to be competed for by firms and factories employing up to fifty people. The award is 24 in. high and made in solid silver. It was designed by Mr. Robert Welch, who has won awards and had his work internationally exhibited.



CASE AND CONTENTS: An eye cosmetic case, gilt on black calf, with mirror inside lid, and containing mascara, eye shadow and eyebrow pencil, available from Lenthéric, Ltd., 17 Old Bond Street, London, W.1.

Information for Manufacturers

Appointed Agents. — Hughes & Hughes (Enzymes), Ltd., 35 Crutched Friars, London, E.C.3, have been appointed exclusive United Kingdom distributors for Enzyme Development Corporation, New York, U.S.A. The company are to offer a range of proteolytic enzymes including bromelain, ficin and papain and other enzymes for use in the medical and research fields.

Manufacturing in Brazil.—Brazilian Trade Consultants, associated with Administradores Profissionais Associados of Sao Paulo, Brazil, offer their specialised services to British companies interested in having their products manufactured in Brazil, either under a royalty agreement, in partnership with a local concern or by establishing their own subsidiary in that country. The principal of the firm, Mr. Gordon B. Coleman, 17 Farm Avenue, North Harrow, Middlesex, would welcome an opportunity of discussing the services provided by his organisation with anybody who is interested.

Monographs on Chemical Technology. — "Werkstoffe in der chemischen Technik" ("Structural Materials in Chemical Technology"), Volume 39 of the series of Dechema monographs, has just been published by Verlag Chemie, G.m.b.H., Weinheim/Bergstrasse, Germany (pp. 286, with 140 illustrations and nineteen tables; price to members of Dechema (the *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Chemisches Apparatewesen*) DM 19.80; to non-members DM 24.80). The volume contains the text of sixteen lectures presented at the Dechema annual meeting, 1960, some of them considerably extended. Summaries in English and French are included.

Combined List of Products.—A catalogue just published by Laporte Industries, Ltd., lists nearly 300 chemicals manufactured by companies in the Laporte group and gives brief particulars of home and export packages. As well as products of the United Kingdom companies, the publication has sections devoted to the manufactures of subsidiaries in Australia, Canada and Germany. The introduction states that the booklet has been published to meet the need for a concise summary of products following the rapid expansion of the group at home and overseas. Copies may be obtained from the group's publicity department, 1-5 New Bond Street, London, W.1.

A Service for Van Operators. — A new service for companies that operate transport fleets is offered by Personnel Administration, Ltd., management consultants, 2 Albert Gate, London, S.W.1. The service is aimed at providing more frequent and better-timed deliveries or collections, and at reducing costs by arranging for fewer vehicles and men to provide the service. It covers such matters as the number, size and type of vehicles required for maximum efficiency; the setting-up of standards to cover loading, running and unloading; the introduction of journey planning procedures; the provision of a suitable basis of payment for drivers (including expense allowances and a bonus scheme based on performance), etc.

Atomic Models.—The new Courtauld atomic models marketed by Griffin &

George (Sales), Ltd., Ealing Road, Alpertons, Wembley, Middlesex, are accurately hollow moulded in rigid plastics, and are much lighter than the original series introduced some years ago. The design also permits the construction and easy handling of long chains and complex configurations. They are coloured to international standards. A new linking mechanism, consisting of brass link, rubber collar and plastic ring, allows the distortion of the valency angles to be observed and measured. It also greatly extends the usefulness of the models in that it allows many molecules to be built which would otherwise be impossible to construct.

Bulk Storage Advisory Service. — F. W. Berk & Co., Ltd., Berk House, 8 Baker Street, London, W.1, point out that bulk storage of liquids in tanks not only ensures continuity of supply, but also eliminates the cost of handling returnable containers. In many cases tanks, they say, can be constructed, often in less space than that required by stacked containers; particularly where underground tanks are permissible, valuable space can be made avail-

able for other purposes. Delivery by tanker is speedier and often safer, with less danger of loss by contamination and spillage. To assist customers they have appointed Mr. E. G. Jewell, of the company's London Colney works, to be responsible for advising all those who wish to take advantage of the company's bulk delivery service.

Safety Pack for Organic Peroxides.—Laporte Chemicals, Ltd., Luton, Beds, have introduced a new 5-gall. safety pack for their liquid organic peroxides. The pack, 10 x 10 x 17 in. high, is of light mild steel with an inner container of special grade polythene resistant to possible chemical reaction. Its weight, empty, is 8 lb. Features of the new pack include: (1) An interrupted chimb at the top preventing retention of any liquid from external sources. (2) Safety closure, comprising a plastic cap incorporating a specially designed pressure relief vent. Whilst not permitting any leakage of the contents, this vent will allow any pressure build-up to be relieved at about 1 lb. per sq. inch pressure. (3) A flame arrester cap as an added precaution. (4) A neat but stoutly constructed carrying handle.

CONSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

Building exhibition items for factories and shops

FACTORY planners and even shop planners would find at the Building Exhibition, Olympia, London, W.14, much to command their attention. It is here possible to mention a few ideas at random. For example, ARMSTRONG CORK CO., LTD., Bush House, Aldwych, London, W.C.2, were showing a vulcanised homogeneous vinyl tile claimed highly resistant to cigarette burns, greaseproof, stainproof, resistant to alkali, detergents, soaps and most acids and solvents, easy to maintain and capable of withstanding static loads of up to 200 lb. per sq. in. without permanent indentation. BRUYNZEEL WOOD PRODUCTS CO., LTD., Uxbridge, Middlesex, showed the Bruynzeel system of instantly adjustable timber shelving. Its basic elements are shelves and uprights that are joined together by unobtrusive metal brackets fitting into slots provided at 2-in. intervals in the uprights. BURT, BOULTON & HAYWOOD, LTD., Belvedere, Kent, were showing a new flooring compound for surfacing concrete floors — a product that may be "run over in hob-nailed boots" or with metal-wheeled trucks, without showing signs of wear, and that is claimed waterproof, fire-resistant and resistant to chemicals. GRIFFIN & GEORGE (LABORATORY CONSTRUCTION), LTD., Ealing Road, Alpertons, Wembley, were showing for the first time the Griffin-Grundy all-metal laboratory furniture. The new furniture is understood to have improved corrosion resistance. Doors, catches and other closing parts are already assembled in frames, so that the final assembly may be carried out with ease by semi-skilled labour.

IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES, LTD., were showing polyvinyl chloride pipes, p.v.c. sheet for lamination to non-metallic surfaces, and p.v.c. foil for lamination direct to steel and non-ferrous surfaces; coated fabric for interior decoration of offices, etc.; materials for

eradicating dry-rot infections; chlorinated rubber paints (resistant to attack by acids, oxidising agents, high humidity, marine conditions, and alkalis). Acoustic tiles (the Marleytone, 12 x 12-in. mineral-fibre, the Decortone vinyl 16-in. sq. containing mineral wool slabs; and the Finetone, of wood fibre with a variety of perforations) were among exhibits at the stand of MARLEY TILE CO., LTD., Riverhead, Sevenoaks, Kent. So were the thermal insulation materials Marleycel expanded polystyrene and Marlith wood wool, a new vinyl rain-water goods system, and an extruded corrugated vinyl sheeting: Marleyglaze, designed for use as a roof sheeting. The company were also showing Marley space-saver doors, wall partitioning and folding door units. An industrial warm-air heater, claimed "ideally suited for the smaller factory or workshop," was the Dravo model 30 shown by POWELL DUFFRYN MODULAIR, LTD., Camberley, Surrey. THE UNITED STEEL COS., LTD., The Mount, Broomhill, Sheffield, 10, were demonstrating uses in buildings of stainless steel, and cited as examples chemical laboratories. Fittings suitable for chemical plants, produced in stainless steel and nickel alloys, and shown by WILMOT BREEDEN, LTD., Amington Road, Birmingham 25, were identified with batch numbers to provide a full history from the material stage. Each batch has been subjected to mechanical and weld decay tests. Wherever possible the fittings are seamless, and where welded, the weld bend is normally removed to give a flush, smooth finish.

The same company's Hills McCanna range of ball valves do not allow dirt or scale to prevent tight shutoff. The double seals are under constant compression, which is increased as line pressure increases, ensuring safe containment of toxic, corrosive and explosive chemicals.

BRANCH EVENTS

EAST METROPOLITAN

Doctor in the Zoo

THE Whipps Cross Hospital Medical Society and the East Metropolitan Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society held a joint meeting at the hospital on December 1. The speaker was Mr. O. Graham Jones (a veterinary officer to the Royal Zoological Society), who spoke on "The Veterinary Attention of the Captive Wild Animal." The speaker outlined the history of the London Zoo, with particular reference to veterinary control. Since 1948 the Zoo's own hospital has been in operation, and the animal mortality rate has been greatly reduced. Mr. Graham Jones illustrated with colour slides and films the methods which had been developed for restraining, dosing, and treating animals of all sizes—from mice to tigers or elephants. Specialised anaesthetic machines and masks were shown, together with the special boxes with lowering lids for safe handling of difficult animals, x-ray photographs, and methods of treatment of fractures; e.g., repair of a penguin's fractured leg by medallory splinting. The gun technique for intramuscular injection on difficult animals was also illustrated.

READING

Addresses at Christmas Dinner

THE December meeting of the Reading Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society took the form of a Christmas dinner held at Reading, after which members were entertained by talks on "Collecting Paper Weights" by Mrs. R. Roberts and on "Bee Keeping" by B. D. Bird. Mrs. Roberts illustrated her talk with examples of continental craftsmanship from the nineteenth century. Mr. Bird explained that because of the increased use of chemical spraying the bee population had been seriously reduced in recent years, and there was concern that the danger level would soon be reached. Bees were the main means of pollination and a fall in their numbers would lead to a reduced fruit crop.

EDINBURGH AND SOUTH-EASTERN SCOTTISH

Educational Changes Commended

THE chairman (Mr. J. H. Henderson) and his lady received the guests at the annual dinner and dance of the Edinburgh and South-eastern Scottish Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society held in Edinburgh recently. He expressed thanks for the whole-hearted support given to the function. Proposing the toast of "The Pharmaceutical Society," Dr. F. J. Elliott spoke of the improvements carried out by the Society both in the teaching syllabus and the various examinations which a candidate had to pass before being admitted to the register. Educational and scientific work were encouraged, as could be seen he said by the successful yearly meetings of the British Pharmaceutical Conference. The evening meetings arranged by the Scottish Executive were a feature of Scottish pharmaceutical life and the interest

they aroused (as shown by the attendance) was surely, he suggested, the envy of many similar bodies. The local branch had members serving on the Society's Council and on the Statutory, History, Veterinary, Scientific and *ad hoc* committees—"truly a remarkable position for any one branch." Responding, Mr. J. B. Grosset (a member of Council and past chairman of the Branch) said "There is no doubt in my mind that the pharmacist qualifying under the new educational requirements is well equipped to fill the rôle of expert adviser to the medical profession on the action and uses of modern drugs."

GUILDFORD

Two Windows in Cathedral

A CHEQUE for £350 towards the provision of two pharmacists' windows in Guildford Cathedral was handed to the Dean (Bishop George Clarkson) at the annual dinner and dance of the Guildford Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society on November 22. The windows are to be on the staircase of the north aisle. The presentation was made by Mr. Tom Reid (immediate past-president of the Pharmaceutical Society and a member of the Branch) who recalled that two years ago an appeal had been made by a small committee of pharmacists of the Guildford diocese for subscriptions to provide two windows to the profession. The committee had been encouraged by two sizeable gifts from manufacturers. It had now been found that, to complete the windows (emblazoning in stained glass the arms of the Society on one and the motto on the other) would require an extra £50, but that would soon be found. The Dean of the Cathedral proposed a toast to the Pharmaceutical Society and Mr. H. S. Grainger (president of the

Society) replied. He said the Society placed great stress on a high standard of education and training and upon the high ethical code of practice which it had been the duty of the Council to promote and in each generation to try to enhance. "Having reached a point in our history where, I think, we can claim to have achieved professional status, we find ourselves, along with many other professions, disappointed in the degree to which we command public sympathy." A state of affairs had been reached at which threats had had to be issued (happily retracted for the present) of withdrawal from the Health Service. "We should be proud to be part of the Health Service," he went on. "It is a tragedy to find ourselves in this position, and I hope the day is not far off when we are able to take steps for a happier situation." A toast to the ladies and guests was proposed by the Branch chairman (Mrs. S. E. Massey) and replied to by Mr. C. W. T. Ridout (chairman, Woking Branch). The guests included the mayor of Guildford (Alderman E. Jones, a member and past-chairman of the Branch).

STOCKPORT

World Health Problems

ON December 4, the Stockport Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society was addressed by Professor Fraser Brockington of the Department of Social and Preventive Medicine on "World Health." The speaker, who illustrated his talk with colour slides of India, Assam and Indonesia, contrasted the present-day health of Great Britain with that prevailing in many of the world's underdeveloped territories. It was hard to conceive, he said, why so many anachronisms existed with the resources and knowledge available today.



"Wholehearted support," to which the chairman made reference, is evident in the faces of members and guests photographed at the annual dinner and dance of the Edinburgh and South-eastern Scottish Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society held recently.

In some areas diseases such as small-pox, the dysenteries and trachoma were accepted by the inhabitants as being omnipresent and inevitable. On the other hand, the question could be raised as to why the high incidence of chronic bronchitis in this country could be accepted so complacently without making greater efforts to combat it. Professor Brockington stressed the importance of preventive medicine, despite the many obstacles to be overcome. It was hard to change the primitive patterns of family structure and habits in backward areas. There was often a lack of any community organisation, shortage of

medical centres to treat and instruct the peoples, and shortage of professional medical staff (especially nurses and midwives). In some areas, great progress had been made in controlling and reducing mortality from disease, although such improvements had produced a further problem, namely an alarming rise in the birth rate and population. That could be solved by education in family adjustment and birth-control measures and the speaker described the medical and family planning centres being set up in India, and the methods adopted in Japan (which included legalised abortion, and education by means of puppet

shows). Professor Brockington warned, however, that in tackling the problem, the spiritual outlook had to be considered.

Before the meeting closed, a branch resolution for the Branch Representatives' meeting in May was discussed. The proposal "That the Society should take on the status of a trade union" was defeated by an overwhelming vote in favour of one "That the National Pharmaceutical Union should take on the nominal status of a trade union for the purpose of any negotiations which may be necessary on behalf of its members."

MEDICAL RESEARCH DURING 1960

Chief medical officer's review

THERE has been no abatement in the development of testing of psychotropic drugs, states Dr. G. E. Godber (Chief Medical Officer, Ministry of Health) in his annual report for 1960 (H.M. Stationery Office, price 13s.). But though knowledge on the subject accumulated during the year, therapeutic advances generally were less extensive than had been hoped. Nevertheless some of the drugs had made many patients amenable to other methods of treatment. Dr. Godber makes mention of the elaboration of methicillin and its unique property of not being destroyed by staphylococcal penicillinase, to the use of metronidazole, which had given encouraging results in chronic vaginitis arising from trichomonal infection, and to diloxamide furcate, for the treatment of amoebiasis. His commenting on drug addiction is that its incidence remained reassuringly small. It appeared that, so far, at least, none of the potent analgesics was entirely devoid of a potentiality for addiction, "not even phenazocine, first introduced by the National Institute of Health, United States of America, with high promise in this regard." Doctors in the United Kingdom were adhering principally to morphine and pethidine, with whose virtues and short-comings they were reasonably familiar. Nevertheless the barbiturates and the tranquillisers were being prescribed on an ever-increasing scale, and whether that trend would be to the ultimate good was still much in doubt. In a reference to the introduction of the British National Formulary, 1960, and the British Pharmacopoeia Addendum, Dr. Godber states that the use of potassium perchlorate tablets in the treatment of thyrotoxicosis and the "new standard analgesic soluble compound codeine tablets" were "reminders that some comparatively simple formulations are still effective therapeutic agents." Reference is also made in the report to the 1960 British Pharmaceutical Conference meeting at Newcastle-on-Tyne, and to Dr. Capper's paper on "The change to the Metric System in Pharmaceutical Practice."

Classification of Proprieties

On the work of the standing joint committee on the classification of proprietary preparations, the report states that preparations classified in categories O and H amounted to about 17 per cent. of the total of 4,871 preparations

that were considered. A major achievement in research into the causes of the common cold arose from the discovery of greatly improved methods of cultivation of the virus associated with that condition. Diphtheria, which had been so largely reduced since 1942, continued to occur in relatively small localised outbreaks, and the fatality rate had shown no tendency to fall. "Each year's births add three-quarters of a million susceptibles to the population, and permit no pause in the pressure to secure immunisation." Measles, scarlet fever, and whooping-cough still caused much illness in children, though the fatality ratio had fallen consistently over the years. During 1960 no large outbreaks of acute anterior poliomyelitis had been recorded. Dysentery notifications increased from 35,326 in 1959 to over 43,000 in 1960; fortunately the fatality ratio remained low. Inability to control wide variations in incidence were a challenge to the preventive services. Syphilis increased sharply in in-

cidence through the year. A serious problem was being created by non-gonococcal urethritis, the number of cases of which had more than doubled in the past ten years. A similar increase was reported in the number of cases of gonorrhoea. The tuberculosis situation continued to improve, but information and adequate data on the morbidity of the rheumatic diseases were lacking. Deaths ascribed to malignant diseases numbered over 98,000 in 1960, representing 19 per cent. of deaths from all causes. "In other words, one person in every five dies of cancer." Referring to the Therapeutic Substances Act, Dr. Godber says that the spur of research in the antibiotic field is the bogey of the frequency of specific antibiotic resistance acquired by micro-organisms to antibiotics, and adds "restriction of the use of individual antibiotics so far as possible to organisms against which their efficacy has been proved by laboratory tests is probably the only way of maintaining their usefulness."

"THE COUNCIL AND THE MEMBERSHIP"

Mr. Bloomfield addresses Essex joint meeting

A JOINT meeting, sponsored by the Romford Branch of the Pharmaceutical Society, and attended by members of the Colchester and Southend branches, was held at Chelmsford on November 6, the first of its kind in the area. Speaker was Mr. J. C. Bloomfield (a member of Council), who gave a talk on "The Council and the Membership."

Mr. Bloomfield emphasised that contact between members of Council and the membership at large was essential, and that joint meetings were especially valuable for the discussion of pharmaceutical politics. Much criticism of Council decisions was, he thought, the result of poor communication. Better public relations in pharmacy, including relations between Council and members, were urgently needed.

The memorandum of evidence submitted by the Pharmaceutical Society to the working party on medicines legislation proposed, said Mr. Bloomfield, that all medicines should be subject to control as a general principle to which exceptions might be made, and that substances newly introduced as medicines should be supplied only on prescription until sufficient evidence was available to justify release from such control. The Society also wished to re-

strict the use of misleading titles such as "drug store" and "chemists' sundries."

Between 1950 and 1960 there had been a progressive decline in the number of pharmacies, but the number of pharmacists had increased. Unfortunately, many pharmacists were not employed full time (for example married women and semi-retired people). The Ministry of Health had raised with the Society the question of a joint inquiry into the man-power situation in pharmacy and the Council had agreed to co-operate.

The report of the Committee on the General Practice of Pharmacy had not yet been discussed by the Council, and was not likely to be so discussed before March 1962, by which time the views of the branches would be known. He was of the opinion that the question of limiting the number of branch shops that one superintendent could control would cause the most argument. Perhaps, he suggested, the grouping of businesses to obtain better buying terms would develop naturally, and that, in turn, would allow the employment of more qualified staff. Dispensing in rural districts would have to be specially considered area by area.



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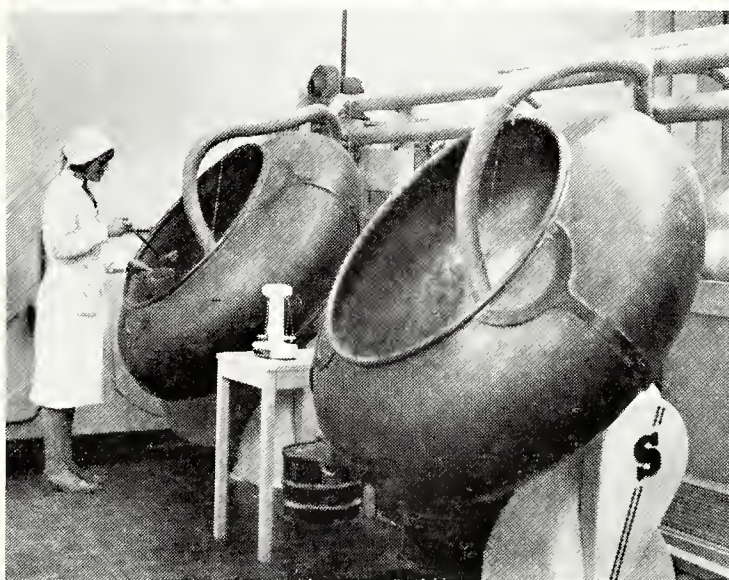
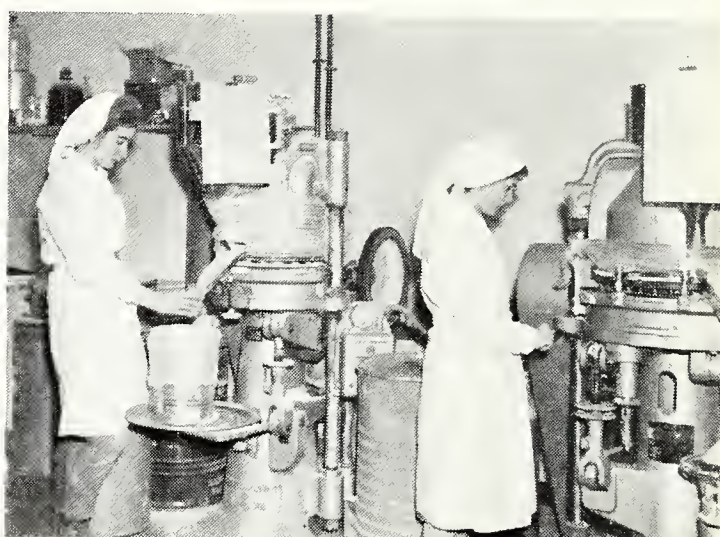
Tablets for the Trade

REASONS FOR THE SUCCESS OF A MAKING AND COATING SERVICE

"QUALITY tablets in a hurry" is the slogan of Inter-Alia Pharmaceutical Services, Ltd., London and Thetford, Norfolk. Quite a few manufacturer customers have proved the claim no idle boast, though any retailer who

Since, even before they were installed, he was able to satisfy the urgent demand of one client for ten million coated tablets within a week, it will be seen that his resources for bulk production are adequate for exacting

in a new industrial estate established by the local town-council, a Customs and Excise official was making a call to set his seal on an export order. That was quite an event. For the company it was the first occasion the Cus-



Upper left: Granulating the material for a batch of tablets. Upper right: Multi-punch tabletting machines in operation. Lower left: Coating pans of 5-ft. diameter, believed by the manufacturers the first to be put into use in the pharmaceutical industry. Lower right: Casing an export order.

rang up for a hundred phenobarbs. if he ran out of stock would be misguided, for the aim and policy of the company are to provide a tablet-making service for manufacturers, for hospitals, clinics and for exporters. At the disposal of those clients the chairman and managing director (Mr. R. Simons) puts a 22-years' practical experience in running the tablet-making departments of leading pharmaceutical manufacturers, supplemented by an energetic pursuit of all the know-how and information to be gained from technical publications and from satisfying his curiosity as to what other industries are doing. Since he established his own business he has been putting everything back to enrich the plant and equipment, and even in the past few weeks has added two new rotary tabletting machines each capable of an output of 120,000 per hour.

demands. For shorter runs there are a number of single-punch machines as well as a Wilkinson triple-punch machine with a capacity of 15,000 per hour. The already exceptional investment (for any company, let alone one so young) in plane, convex and scored punches in a range of diameters is being continually increased, both on general principles and to meet any special requirement of a new client. A new 1-ton oven for drying granulations is on the way, in addition to present smaller ones, and the equipment for applying sugar and other coatings includes two 5-ft. diameter coating pans in copper—one of them believed the first of its kind to be commissioned in the pharmaceutical industry—several stainless steel coaters, and polishing pans.

During the writer's visit to the factory, which is a "package deal" unit

toms clearance had been completed at the Thetford end—previous clearances have been arranged at the company's London warehouse. For the official, who had come over from Ely, it was his first official visit to a pharmaceutical factory of any sort in his area, which of course is not one of the most industrial in the country.

Speed, one essential in any service that sets out to satisfy the tablet demands of manufacturers, would be fruitless if the quality of the tablets were not up to the requirements of the buyers, some of whom demand standards of perfection above those officially laid down. Messrs. Inter-Alia put themselves in the highest quality class by close attention to three factors: personnel, materials and maintenance. Apart from Mr. Simons, the works manager has himself had a lifetime experience of tablet making with an old-

established drug house. The factory operates a night shift for granulating and compressing, though not for coating.

The staff and factory alike are naturally small at present, but both are expanding. A canteen-room for the employees was recently added, and when the area at rear and alongside the factory comes into full use its superficial area will be quadrupled. When that accretion becomes too small there is an option to erect a larger "solus" factory on the same estate.

The second guarantee of quality is the purchase, without exception, of premier-grade materials, supplemented by an arrangement under which every batch of tablets, other than those produced for a manufacturer with his own analytical laboratory, secures the certificate of approval of a leading independent drug analyst before issue. Routines under the heading of maintenance are the third guarantee of quality. They include, in addition to a thorough cleaning of the compressing machines after each use, a run-through

with an inert powder and a recleaning, a complete dismantling and refit of machines every week-end by a maintenance engineer.

However, the proof of a service comes in the frequency of its use by the people it is designed for. Quality and delivery must be right, and so must price. Proof that the claims made for the merits of the company's service are by no means extravagant is surely forthcoming in the extremely rapid growth of output and turnover since the formation of the company in 1959.

FARM CHEMICALS ON DISPLAY

Interest for rural pharmacies at the Smithfield Show

OVERLOOKING the show ring and livestock pens at the Royal Smithfield Show in London, December 4-8, were displays of their products by makers of agricultural chemicals and feeds.

BAYWOOD CHEMICALS, LTD., 37 Bedford Row, London, W.C.1, introduced an organo-phosphorus warble-fly dressing (Co-Ral), Tugon varnish for fly control, and the systemic insecticide Metasystox, containing demeton-methyl and recommended especially for controlling potato virus diseases.

BOOTS PURE DRUG CO., LTD., Nottingham, showed a representative sample of their products, including the fungicide Allisan and the herbicides Cornox, Dalapon and MCPA.

"Churn" protective minerals for cattle, sheep, pigs and poultry, formulated by BRITISH GLUES & CHEMICALS, LTD., 168 High Holborn, London, W.C.1, were listed as high-copper, high-iodine and magnesium-rich mixes, to be chosen selectively, according to soil contents and the animals' rations.

DOW AGROCHEMICALS, LTD., King's Lynn, Norfolk, showed their insecticide Nankor, claimed seven times less toxic than DDT and to persist over six weeks. Another product on show, Etrolene drench against warble fly, is being superseded during 1962 by the company's newly formulated pour-on insecticide Ruelene (see *C. & D.*, December 2, p. 602).

The pharmaceuticals division of IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES, LTD., Wilmslow, Ches., concentrated on their recently introduced anthelmintic methyridine, formulated as Mintic (oral) and Promintic (injection). The associated company PLANT PROTECTION, LTD., offered a comprehensive selection of weed-killers including Agrosan GN (organo-mercury), Agroxone K (MCPA), Dawpon, Dioxone (2-4 D with 2-4 DB), Gammasan (gamma BHC/captan), the Mergamma range of seed dressings, Methoxone (CMPP) and Reglone non-toxic haulm destroyer, as well as 7 lb. tins of Cyonag (sodium cyanide) for gassing rabbits and rats.

MAY & BAKER, LTD., Dagenham, Essex, showed alongside their established products three new specialities—Seritox (2,4-DP/MCPA) for eradicating weeds from straight cereals; Tubothane (maneb with manganese) fungicide for control of potato blight, and M&B brand DDT.

MICRO-BIOLOGICALS, LTD., Fordingbridge, Hants, displayed as a "preliminary announcement" a formula-

tion (Alcovit) of high-potency vitamins encased as minute droplets in polyvinyl alcohol. The appearance is thus granular. The grade of PVA used is claimed to withstand cubing of the product and to dissolve only in a warm aqueous medium such as prevails in an animal's stomach.

MINSAL, LTD., Northwich, Ches., displayed their mineral mixtures and licks—five formulations for cattle, two for pigs and one each for sheep, poultry and horses.

MURPHY CHEMICAL CO., LTD., Wheatthampstead, Herts, introduced Murbetex (disodium endotal/propham) residual weed-killer for use on sugar beet. The makers claim that, of thirty-seven weed species encountered during trials, only three (orache, charlock, white mustard) were resistant to Murbetex.

PAN BRITANNICA INDUSTRIES, LTD., Waltham Abbey, Essex, showed KNZ, described as "Europe's top-selling mineral lick." KNZ contains magnesium, manganese, iodine, copper and

cobalt cubed with salt and finally coated with magnesium sulphate to "weatherproof" it. The cube has a hole through the middle so that it may be suspended on a rope.

SHELL CHEMICAL CO., LTD., 15 Great Marlborough Street, London, W.1, pointed a trend towards "seedicide" techniques in spray-controlling weeds before germination. Annual application of the broad-spectrum seedicide Bladex (50 per cent. simazine) was one example. The company are introducing next spring their brand of 2,4-DP, a selective non-toxic hormone weed-killer.

E. R. SQUIBB & SONS, LTD., Edwards Lane, Speke, Liverpool, 24, tabulated their agro-veterinary and ethical veterinary ranges, specially featuring the former. The three main lines were Synovex natural hormone implants containing progesterone/œstradiol or testosterone; Rubfrafer iron and vitamin B₁₂ for pigs; and Vionate mineral and vitamin supplement.

FITTINGS THAT NEEDED NO FIXING

"Self-erecting" units used in a pharmacy



THE neat reference to the dispensary to be seen in the illustration provides a focal point at the end of the long and narrow pharmacy of Jordan Bros. (Grays), Ltd., Grays, Essex, which was recently modernised. The work was carried out under the direction of Mr. F. H. Saunders, A.R.I.B.A. The fittings were by Counterpoint Store Equipment, Ltd., Rochford Road, Southend, who

reduced in depth their standard range of equipment and in parts added sliding glass-door cupboard units and a complete run of storage cupboards at low level. The equipment is finished in polished oak, with white enamel background to all the wall fittings. The existing counters were faced with laminated-plastic hardboard and fitted with bin tops.



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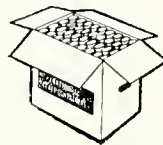


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The Society Engages a Consultant

WITH its usual apparent reluctance to show its hand, the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society disclosed, somewhere about the middle of December, the appointment of a company of public-relations consultants (C. S. Services, Ltd.), to act in that capacity for the Society, the appointment having operated as from November 12 and being effective for a period of three years. The delay in transmitting the news from No. 17 might well be taken as indicative of the need for the company's services. In industry the object of such an appointment is to ensure, so far as possible, that the company's policies and actions are appreciated by the general public and viewed in a favourable light by them. "P.R.O's" have been described as existing in the borderland of advertising, but that cannot be taken as a criticism of the Society's decision, for the growth of public relations consultants indicates that both those who employ them and the Press, by which many of their issued statements are received, have found them useful in today's commercial world. So far as the *C. & D.* is concerned we do not regard ourselves as being principal targets of the consultants' activities, but welcome any official assistance that may be forthcoming as the result of the new appointment, for often some background information is helpful in explaining and interpreting the activities that take place at No. 17. At the same time we would warn members of the Society that the new appointment is not likely to bring immediate changes in respect of their situation as reflected in the national and local Press. The effect is of a long-term policy, from which the pharmacist in the dispensary, however remote, may eventually hope for some benefit. Nevertheless, such improvements cannot rest only upon the efforts of the consultants. The stimulation must be from the heart of the Society—the individual members who largely control the public image that is formed during their professional contacts with members of the public.

The new consultants have a major task to perform, not only in ensuring a favourable climate for the activities of the Society, its Council and its members, but also to co-operate with other consultant voices in pharmacy (for example, those of the National Pharmaceutical Union and Association of British Pharmaceutical Industry). For if three voices were to circulate differing and perhaps irreconcilable opinions without some explanations to help the recipients to understand the situation in all its aspects, then the result would be not to clarify a "public image" but to confuse it further.

Research on Tropical Plants

KENYA may one day be a leading supplier of geranium oil as she is of pyrethrum today. If that does come about a considerable amount of credit must go to the Tropical Products Institute, for it was the institute's predecessor which in 1928 was instrumental in introducing pyrethrum to East Africa. Now 75 per cent. of exported pyrethrum comes from that region and in Kenya the crop occupies fourth position in agricultural exports. More recently the institute has been closely concerned with the introduction of the Reunion type of geranium into the Colony and the production of oil from the leaves. Tea seeds were exchanged for a quantity of cuttings of the Bourbon variety of geranium. Although many died, a few survived and these were carefully propagated. Rapid progress has been made in the three years since the first sample of oil was received by the T.P.I. and last year a sample of oil was found to be almost equal to the Bourbon variety from the perfumers' point of view. Examination of the oil by gas chromatography was one of the many facets of the Institute's work being shown at recent open days held for the first time at the Institute. The Institute's annual report (*C. & D.*, August 12, p. 162), gave details of nindi oil which it is thought might be useful for soap manufacturers.

The drugs section would appeal to the pharmacognocist for workers are currently engaged on screening hundreds of tropical plants with a view to isolating new physiologically active substances which might provide drugs of commercial value and thus cash crops for the tropics.

As far as possible, plant specimens are being obtained from the more remote tropical areas where the flora still remains largely unexamined. Initial chemical screening tests are carried out on extracts of various parts of the plants to detect the presence of certain main classes of compounds, principally alkaloids, saponins and phenolic substances. In suitable cases purified extracts are submitted to the Institute's pharmacological testing unit at Birmingham University for determination of physiological activity. Depending on the results of the biological tests, further study to isolate and identify the active principles may be undertaken.

Although this work may be laborious and certainly unremunerative, it is reassuring to know that research is proceeding in Britain as indeed it is in India and South Africa (aided by Russia and the United States respectively). One day, who knows, a plant may yield up a constituent as beneficial as morphine or digoxin?

ECHOES OF THE PAST

TO ONE POISONED

From "*Primitive Physick*" by John Wesley. London, 1772.
Give one or two Drams of *distill'd Verdigrease*: It vomits in an Instant:

Let one poisoned by *Arsenic* dissolve a quarter of an Ounce of *Salt of Tartar* in a Pint of Water, and drink every quarter of an Hour as much as he can, till he is well.

Let one poisoned by *Opium*, take thirty Drops of *Elixir of Vitriol* every quarter of an Hour, till the Drowsiness or Wildness ceases.

Let one poisoned with *Mercury Sublimate*, dissolve an Ounce of *Salt of Wormwood* in a Gallon of Water, and drink largely of it. This will entirely destroy the Force of the Poison, if it be used soon.

Nothing cures the *African Poison*, but a Decoction of the Roots of the *Sensitive Plant*.

PHARMACY IN TURKEY

A Study in Contrasts

ANNE SAVAGE, M.P.S.

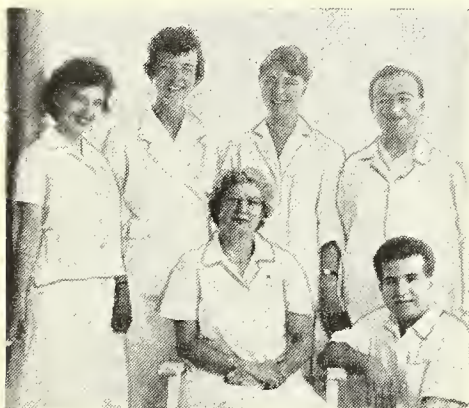


I WAS fortunate enough to be able to see pharmacy in Turkey at first hand when I was given the opportunity, under the auspices of the International Pharmaceutical Students' Federation, of working in a hospital pharmacy in Uskudar (Scutari). The hospital (*hastahanesi*=the house of him who is ill) stood high up on the hill above Ushüdar in Asia. It had 200 maternity beds and 150 beds for children.

The old hospital building, 100 years old this year, was linked by an all-glass corridor to the modern part, now about two years old, which contained the operating theatres, x-ray department, laboratories, dining room, doctors' and nurses' accommodation and, last but not least, the pharmacy. Located on the top floor of the block beside the laboratories and the library, the pharmacy is a large spacious room opening on one side to a balcony, which looks across the mountains along the Ankara road. The room for night duty and the chief pharmacist's office looks across the Bosphorus to Istanbul. The old pharmacy (in the usual place for hospital pharmacies in former days) serves as a basement store.

Keeping Records

The staff of the department consisted of a chief and deputy, who were pharmacists, and two unqualified assistants. The



The pharmacy department staff with Miss Savage (second from left). The hospital has 200 maternity beds and 150 beds for children.

pharmacists worked from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (with one hour for lunch) on six days a week, but there was always one assistant on twenty-four-hour duty. The dispensing was done entirely by the assistants, while the pharmacists acted in a supervisory capacity and kept the records. The records that had to be kept showed paper bureaucracy at its worst. An exact copy of every ward order was made, the original being filed and also left in the pharmacy. The quantity of the drug issued was extracted from the prescriptions and entered in another book, and finally the stock was balanced in the largest imaginable stock book.

The prescriptions were written in French. The official pharmacopœia at the moment is a Turkish translation of the French Pharmacopœia, but shortly there will be a strictly national one. Each patient received a day's supply of drugs (no stocks were kept in wards), and the patient's name and number and the tablets, powders or cachets required were written on to a paper poke (three-cornered bag) and any prescription for mixtures, etc., written on a plain piece of paper, which was later gummed on to a bottle. There was no variety of bottles to choose from. Mixtures and external preparations all went into the same empty intravenous bottles: no puzzles about the best kind of stopper—just another twist of paper and *tamam*—finished! Nor was there any variety of strength of drug: one only was stocked! No wide range of cyanocobalamin or penicillin. If the patient needed a smaller dose a tablet was just chopped into the appropriate number of pieces. There were

no suppository moulds—suppositories were rolled by hand. I found doctors' writing was as bad in Turkey as in Britain. I often thought of the different strengths and kinds of disinfectants supplied to maternity wards at home. One bottle (about a pint) of a Dettol-variety once a week was the allowance. The absence of the characteristic "hospital smell" was noticeable.

What shocked me most was the lack of elementary hygiene—but how could that be practised when there was no water? During the seven weeks I spent at the hospital we were sometimes several days without running water and on other days there was a water supply for a few hours only. It was incredible to me that doctors, trained in America, Sweden, France and Germany, could come from a theatre case or an examination and eat their lunch without first washing.

The hospital equipment was excellent. All the laboratories had the latest in machinery, yet an x-ray room with the latest Siemens equipment for x-raying all parts, in all positions, was useless, because it is forbidden to import x-ray film. Meanwhile the shops had ample supplies of black-and-white and colour films. A deep-ray therapy machine stood idle because there was no water to cool the circuit.

Naturally the work in our hospital was rather specialised, so I was glad of the opportunity of visiting another large modern hospital on the European side. The pharmacy there was extremely large. It had an excellent and well organised stock room and an out-patients' department. None of the hospital pharmacies prepared ampoules or intravenous drip solutions; those came from the factories. Again the qualified people were completely absorbed in paper work, although, with the proportionately larger staff of unqualified people, more supervision was given. The method of dispensing was exactly as in the smaller hospital. Out-patients received drugs under an industrial insurance scheme, sufficient for five days being dispensed.

Lack of Disinfection

Despite the most modern equipment, and the fact that the doctors had trained abroad, both hospitals presented the image I have of hospitals in Britain at the turn of the century. Many new antibiotics and techniques were, of course, used, but I have already mentioned the lack of disinfection. Babies are still wrapped in swaddling bands. The doctors had a really difficult time, because they were not backed by trained, skilled nurses. The nurses certainly have training, and an advanced curriculum too, but even their sister-tutor thought they were too young to understand it. Having passed their examinations, the nurses have to fight to put into practice what they have learnt. They are regarded with suspicion by the older nurses, and are not allowed to use aseptic techniques or practise hygiene. Thus the old state of affairs is perpetuated. There was no team of nurses to assist the doctors in the theatre, so doctors had to assist doctors.

Above all, the doctors had to contend with ignorance and suspicion in the home. Much as the mothers loved their children they had no idea about cleanliness. There were no tinned baby foods and milk (sheep or goats') was an expensive commodity. Bread, grapes and water was a customary midday meal for a six-month-old baby.

The most common and distressing disease is called "toxiosis," which causes the baby to lose cellular fluid through

sickness and diarrhoea. Often, when the condition has been cured by the doctors by intrarticular injections of sucrose in the brain region, the baby returns after about a week with a relapse due to reinfection.

I cannot give enough praise to some of the really dedicated doctors who, despite seemingly overwhelming odds, do really excellent work. They would proudly take us in to see a lockjaw case (caused by a mother cutting the umbilical cord with a dirty knife or scissors) when the ten-day-old baby began to cry again, or to see the child that they had nursed through diphtheria or typhoid. In the end, I am sure, those men and women will raise the standards of the Turkish medical service to be worthy of them and the equipment they work with.

I visited two pharmaceutical factories, which illustrated the complete contrasts that may be found in all walks of Turkish life. On the one hand a fantastically modern factory included a large antibiotic section; the factory was fitted with American machinery, and maintained impeccable



The hospital at Scutari

standards in all departments. For the workers there were well organised welfare schemes, including a free midday meal, which I also enjoyed. Of the other factory I think "Heath Robinson" would be almost sufficient description.

I also visited the pharmacy school, which had recently moved to its new building. It was not to be compared with "the Square." From the pharmacy students who acted as guides on many occasions I was able to learn about Turkish pharmaceutical education. Istanbul University has the only school of pharmacy in the country. The demand for the ninety-six places in the school is tremendous, with often over 1,000 applications. Before admittance the candidate must have a State diploma from his secondary school in Turkish, one foreign language, mathematics and physics. The students then engage in "pre-pharmaceutical" studies (physics, chemistry and botany) alongside the medical, science and chemistry students for at least one year. Pharmaceutical studies then last for three years, the first part including inorganic and analytical chemistry, and pharmacobotany. Examinations in those subjects must be passed within two years. The second part, with no time limit for passing the examinations, includes galenical pharmacy, chemistry, forensic pharmacy, physiology (no practical), pharmacognosy, hygiene, toxicology and first aid. Great importance is attached to chemistry and pharmacognosy. Practical training, carried out during the second, third and fourth years, consists of six months' retail, 2-7 p.m.; three months' hospital, 9 a.m. to 12 noon, and a further three months' retail, 2-7 p.m. That training is carried out during study time and at pharmacies arranged by the pharmacy school. There is a shortage of pharmacists to supply the medical service in the interior of the country because educated people are generally unwilling to work outside the main cities.

Pharmaceutical industry is developing in Turkey and there is a demand for research workers to develop drug supplies from natural sources.

I also had the opportunity of visiting several of the large pharmacies in Istanbul; they tended to have a British (or American drug-store) "flavour" rather than the strictly "pharmaceutical goods only" of most continental countries. Nevertheless, there was a high ethical standard. Many original packs were dispensed, and so were a large number of cachets. Part of the pharmacists' regular routine was not only to supply injections but to administer them (for example penicillin).

On the whole I found pharmacy in Turkey easy to understand, as it did not differ so much from pharmacy at home, and where it did, it was usually in the direction of simplification. Of course it was not easy to take what to me seemed a step backwards in, for example, hygiene, but remarkably that ceased, after a short time, to be a great irritation.

Onward from Galen A CURRENT CAUSERIE

BRANCH bulletins are coming more and more into favour among local organisations of the Pharmaceutical Society, and there is no better way of keeping members *au fait* with what is going on in the area. The latest to reach us is the *West Kent News*, a four-page printed affair with thumbnail illustrations that seem to owe something to the journalistic efforts of its new editor (the *News* is revived after a lapse, not actually new), who has gained experience as (part-time) editor of *Unichem News and Views*, which is currently celebrating its century (of issues, not years). In his introductory remarks in the *West Kent News*, Mr. Rusling describes his appointment as "an opportunity to serve a Branch which welcomed me with real friendliness when I moved into the area just over four years ago." Friendliness in such circumstances usually earns dividends in goodwill to be cashed-in at a later date.



WHAT has been described as one of York's most gracious Georgian buildings, Micklegate House, which has been used by Raimés & Co., Ltd., manufacturing and wholesale chemists, since 1897 has been released by the company for possible use by the new York university. Micklegate House was built as a town house in 1753, and has many fine architectural features. A mechanical spit at the head of the fireplace opening into the kitchen is so designed that a joint may be moved in all planes within the scope of the apparatus, and is driven by a wind vane in the chimney through a system of gears. The present cost of joints may preclude, we surmise, its ever returning to that original function. Meanwhile Messrs. Raimés are making structural alterations to their Toft Green premises behind Micklegate House in order to allow for the further development of their manufacturing processes and packed lines. The process of vacating the old premises will be a phased withdrawal over several months.



How to make factory workers safety conscious is a perennial problem. Recently, Mr. H. Storey, who is safety officer in a works employing 7,000 people, described to other safety officers some methods he had found successful in arousing their interest. "I believe it is just waste of time and money to do nothing else but change safety posters week by week," he said. "It seems that to gain success today you must have a gimmick. Mine . . . is a different way of presenting the same old safety slogans and hints we have to use year after year. My first effort at cheap publicity was connected with safety footwear. I had a small cabinet about 4 ft. sq. where I exhibited samples. Sales were not good, so I obtained a shoe with the sole and heel

completely filled with spriggs, partly enclosed it in a box with a flashing light, which made it impossible for anyone to count the spriggs in a small area and thus calculate the whole sole and heel content. The prize offered was a pair of safety footwear to the person who guessed the nearest to the correct number of spriggs used. . . . From that day the sale of footwear started to increase." The safety footwear display has been followed by others. Films have been used to good advantage, and printed posters supplemented by "home-made" ones, which proved specially effective. Above all, newly engaged employees have been specially conditioned to think on the lines of avoiding careless or casual use of machinery.



How a pharmacist was called to give treatment to Field Marshal Rommel after Allied aircraft strafed his car in France on July 17, 1944, is described in *Surgery*, an American medical journal (113, 243) in an article by Dr. Richard A. Davis, Philadelphia. It is a full medical account of the Field Marshal's injury—and speculates that, had he not been incapacitated at that critical moment, the revolt against Hitler might have taken a different turn. The pharmacist was M. Marcel Lescene, Livarot, Calvados. Madame Lescene provided the author with "an accurate description of her husband's activities on July 17, 1944, which has been a great interest and help," states Dr. Davis. It was on that day that the Field Marshal's command car was strafed by allied aircraft on the main road from Livarot to Vimoutiers, near Ste. Foy. The driver, severely injured, crashed the car and the Field Marshal was thrown out. Captain Lang and Sergeant Holke, unwounded in the attack, took the Field Marshal, who was unconscious from severe cranio-cerebral injury, to a small cottage. Captain Lang then cycled to Vimoutiers, where he looked in vain for German Army aides or doctors. Eventually the Field Marshal was taken to the *asile* called La Providence (a Roman Catholic home for aged persons kept by the nuns), which had been used as a shelter and aid station for wounded French civilians. "At 6.30 p.m., Marcel Lescene, the pharmacist of Livarot, left the home of a friend and walked to the centre of town. Standing near the monument for the dead of the 1914-18 war, the old pharmacist saw Captain Lang hurriedly ask a group of German soldiers for direction to the nearest medical help for the wounded Field Marshal. Then Lang asked Lescene the same question, and was told to proceed in the direction of Lisieux, where doctors could be found. Captain Lang drove off and, for his part, Monsieur Lescene had an afternoon *aperitif* with his colleagues. When Lang returned within the hour he ordered the mother superior, Sister Isidore, to find Lescene. She sent a French civil-defence worker, Jacques Bisson Raulin, who lived near the hostel, to bring the pharmacist at once. Monsieur Lescene arrived with Raulin and found the Field Marshal on the table in the small dining room. After he had examined the patient Lescene made a diagnosis of a fracture of a petrous part of the left tympanic membrane with blood coming from the external auditory canal; there was a fracture through the left orbital arch, and the patient was in a deep coma. Lescene dressed the wounds and, to count the pulse, removed Rommel's wrist watch and placed it on the mantel over the fireplace. The pulse was weak and thready, and the patient was in shock. Lescene gave Rommel 2 ampoules of camphorated oil intramuscularly and then recommended that he and Sergeant Daniel (the driver) should be taken to the Luftwaffe hospital at Bernay." The Field Marshal was transferred to Bernay, twenty-five miles away, and later that evening a colonel of the German Army Corps returned to Livarot and questioned Lescene about his diagnosis, and particularly the matter of the injections which Rommel had received. Then at 2 a.m. Lescene was summoned to the *asile* and was interrogated by another Wehrmacht officer; he was asked for the exact identity of the drug which he had given Rommel, and it had been noticed that the Field

Marshal's wrist watch was missing. Lescene proceeded to sift the ashes of the fireplace and recovered the ampoules; the wrist watch was found where it had been left, on the mantel above the fireplace. Lescene was thanked for his services, and as the pharmacist left he remarked that Rommel probably had little chance of survival. The driver died that evening at Bernay in spite of several transfusions. Rommel lived, making indeed a remarkable recovery; perhaps it would have been better if the pharmacist had not been available and Rommel had received attention too late, for he was saved only to be given two hours to decide whether to shoot himself or face a people's court and be shot. He chose the latter but changed his mind when it was pointed out that in that event his family would suffer. Dr. Davis's account is a contribution to medical and war history. The paper includes a photograph of M. Lescene.



"GIVING and Receiving," a book by Anthony Barker, published by the Faith Press, 1959, includes a paragraph on Dutch folk-remedies. Those remedies, mostly in the form of drops sold in one-ounce bottles, are designed for the use of country Afrikaners and are emotionally of a piece with ox wagons, volkspele and treks as part of Voortrekker culture. But they find a wide custom among Africans where, though some are drunk according to the instructions on the label, most are hung in amulets round the necks of babies. "Not to be outdone," writes the author, "chemists in the neighbouring market towns put up pills and mixtures of their own devising and of brilliant colour. These pills are marketed as 'Extra Strong Native Pills,' satisfying a craving for purgation which I neither share nor understand. Epsom salts are sold in one-ounce packets; croton oil and castor oil—or fierce mixtures of the two—are freely available to the most ignorant of mothers for use on their children. Caustic soda can be bought over the counter in one-pound tins, and the beautiful orange crystals of potassium bichromate, which is a powerful kidney poison, are laid out in trays for the public to buy as it pleases. It is not surprising that fatalities occur; poisoning with potassium bichromate is becoming increasingly common and I recall a man spending a very unpleasant fortnight after his wife—it must be accepted that she was not without a legitimate grudge against him—had given him an enema of concentrated caustic soda." Strong medicines, indeed!

RECENT RESEARCH

RESTORING WEIGHT WITH TOLBUTAMIDE

REDUCTION of the blood sugar level with injected soluble insulin is sometimes used to help restore a patient's weight during convalescence. Tolbutamide, an orally effective hypoglycaemic agent, has been fed to underweight psychiatric patients by Hoenig and Gittleson (*Brit. med. J.*, 1961, **II**, 1403) in order to compare results with those obtained from insulin. In the trial one group was treated with tolbutamide tablets, 1.5 gm., one hour before breakfast and the other group with 10 units of insulin three times a day, half an hour before meals. In terms of weight gain, insulin appeared somewhat more effective. Tolbutamide, however, was easier to administer and the authors add that the absence of side-effects might suggest its use in general practice.

CLASSICAL EXAMPLE: "The periodical complaints about the illegibility of doctors' prescriptions broke out again the other day. The classical example occurred some years ago in West Hartlepool. A rather lengthy prescription got mixed up in a local piccolo player's music, and he tried to play it at a concert, much to the annoyance of the conductor. It was subsequently used as a laundry list by a policeman's wife, who found it on the floor of the concert hall. The laundry people thought it was Greek, and sent it to a professor on their list. He thought it was a new method of shorthand and sent it to a commercial school. They sent it to a decoding expert, who copied it in invisible ink and sent it to M.I.5." Beachcomber in the *Daily Express*.

PHARMACY AND THE COMMON MARKET

A correspondent calls for a report by the Pharmaceutical Society

SIR,—With reference to my recent letter on the Common Market, several pharmacists have communicated to me that they think the time is not appropriate to mention this, in view of the controversy and crisis at the present moment concerning the cuts imposed by the Minister of Health. I could not disagree more. I do not think that such considerations should cloud our view of the impact which the Common Market will have on us. The recent cuts will make us more efficient in business, reducing our drug stocks and having a higher stock turnover ratio. They will be but an apprenticeship to the keen competition in business that will be experienced if we enter the Common Market. It is no use being wise after the event and saying we thought it would be different. We have to *know* what the impact is likely to be before we enter. Decisions of the General Council are binding, though they must be unanimous. Unanimity must not be allowed through default or ignorance, and who is going to represent pharmacy at discussions? The Minister of Health (or a section of his Ministry)? Will he consult, or ask the advice of, the Pharmaceutical Society or other pharmaceutical bodies? (I use the word "consult" in both its meanings, *vide*, N.H.S. negotiations.)

increase of the cost of living, and not static as in this country).

Wages and Industrial Production

In manufacturing industries wage cost per average hour in Germany is 5s. 6d.; United Kingdom 5s. 7d.; Italy 4s. 5d.; Holland 4s. 2d. Industrial production annual gross rate for Germany is 8.8, Italy 8.5, Holland 6.0, Common Market average as a whole 7.4 and the U.K. 3.2. Do we realise that 30 per cent. of all British manufactured exports are sold by just fifty firms employing only 10 per cent. of the country's labour force? Since 1956, German exports have risen by 55 per cent., British exports by only 11 per cent. in an expanding world market. All these things are going to have an effect on our businesses, wages and standard of living. Britain has led the field for quite a long time, but the Continental countries are quickly catching up. Britain imports £660 millions' worth of goods from Commonwealth countries—£95 millions more in value than Britain's exports to those countries. What effect will that have if we switch to the Common Market? Probably an advantage can be gained for the Commonwealth by making full

use of articles 110-16 and 131-36 of the Rome Treaty. We do not realise it, but Britain's manufactured products are amongst the most highly protected in the world! With a breakdown in tariff, what is likely to happen? The population of the Common Market is roughly 172 millions, of the United Kingdom 52 millions. From those figures one can see that it will not be a question of the tail wagging the dog. By going into the Common Market with a population of 224 millions we should see an advance, not only in the standard of living of the lesser developed Continental countries, but in our own as well. We have to make sure that pharmacy itself shares that advance. All those things may seem far away, remote, and nothing to do directly with pharmacy. I do not think we should be misled. They are all going to have a greater effect on our lives and on pharmacy than any cut ever imposed by the Minister of Health. We must be vigilant, and that is why I think it essential that the Pharmaceutical Society should produce a report or an appreciation of the likely effects on us all if we enter into the Common Market.

MERVYN MADGE,
Plymouth

DOUBTS ON SOME PROPRIETARIES

"Prescribers' Journal" in critical vein

Some Figures

Let us look at some business figures. By January 1961, internal tariffs of the Six had been cut to 30 per cent. below the 1957 level, and at the end of the year another 20 per cent. cut is likely to be introduced. Complete elimination of internal tariffs is possible four years ahead of the most optimistic hopes. The German camera, now costing about £27, would be about £18. Perfumes would be much cheaper. We know that butter, fats, bread, cheese and eggs will increase in price. Milk and potatoes will probably be cheaper, but has any estimate been made of the likely price levels of things affecting pharmacy. The only reference I can find anywhere is what I have quoted above: cameras and perfume. We know nothing whatsoever of the likely effect on drug prices, etc.

In West Germany the prospects of promotion for pharmacists, owing to limitation of pharmacies, are practically stagnant. In Luxembourg there is a surplus of pharmaceutical labour. With the gradual freeing of movement of labour on entry to the Common Market, what effect is that likely to have on our own pharmacy life and the pharmaceutical industry in this country? It is worthy of note that Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., have decided to invest £100 millions over the next ten years in chemical plant at Rotterdam. Many people seem to assume that in this country we have a monopoly of a Welfare State, but we should also realise that many members of the Common Market offer better social services (the family allowance in France, pensions, in West Germany—pensions which are increased with the

"DRUG Therapy in Angina Pectoris" is the title of an article in the December issue of the *Prescribers' Journal*, issued by the Departments of Health to doctors in the National Health Service. The author of the article states that trials of drugs in stabilised angina of effort have demonstrated that any inert placebo would diminish the severity of the symptoms in about 50 per cent. of patients. He suggests that, though therapy has a place in the management of angina, it is less important than to adjust the patient's way of life. For symptomatic relief glyceryl trinitrate is still the best. Slowly released glyceryl trinitrate or pentaerythritol tetranitrate may occasionally be useful. "Other drugs are of doubtful value." Preparations of propatyl nitrate, triethanolamine trinitrate and triethanolamine trinitrate biphosphate appear to have no clear-cut advantages, and the report states "There is little satisfactory clinical evidence to support the claims put forward for preparations such as Persantin (2,6 Bis-(diethanolamino)-4, 8-diperidino-pyrimido-(5,4-d), Vascardin (sorbic nitrate), Corangil (glyceryl trinitrate, pentaerythritol tetranitrate, dihydroxypropyl theophylline, magnesium trisilicate, papaverine hydrochloride), Pentoxylon (Rauwiloid, pentaerythritol tetranitrate), Equitrate (meprobamate, pentaerythritol tetranitrate), Perifenil (phenelzine, pentaerythritol tetranitrate and various other proprietaries containing theophylline, aminophylline or papaverine formulated with or without sedatives (Delaminoph, Delamised, Hypersin, Millophyl, Monotheamin))."

Referring to monoamine oxidase inhi-

bitors it is stated it would be unwise to condemn officially those groups of drugs, "for, if the available substances of this chemical group may have any significant effect, more effective chemically related compounds may be discovered in the future." Professor G. M. Wilson (University of Sheffield) contributes an article on modern diuretics and states "An oral agent is the first choice for the treatment of moderate oedema and one of the thiazide group will probably be selected. There is therapeutically little to choose between them. The slightly smaller tablets of the more recent derivatives may be preferred and some are cheaper than chlorothiazide. Chlorthalidone (Hygroton) does not appear to have any clear-cut advantages and disulphamide (Disamide) is more toxic than the thiazide diuretics.

A Warning of Toxic Action

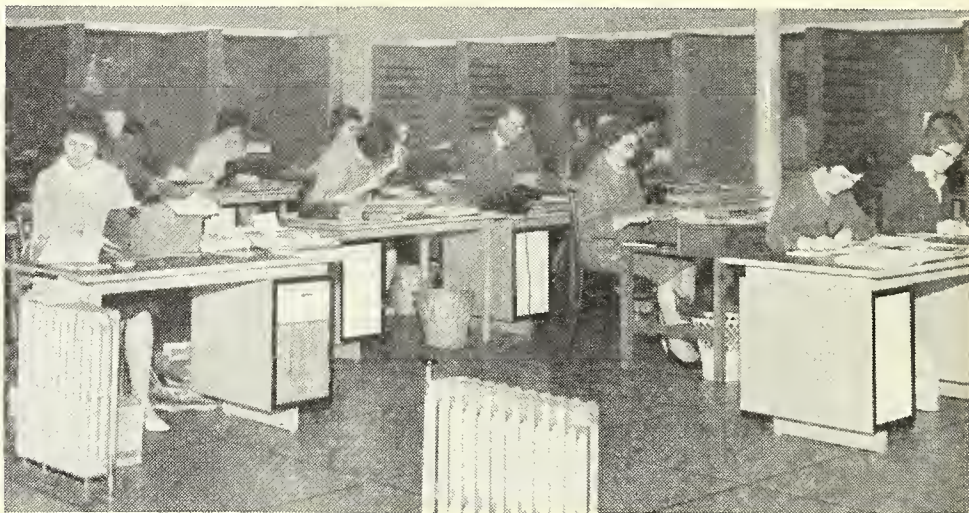
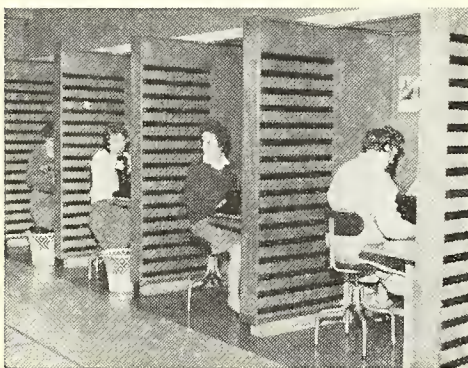
Professor C. Wilson provides a note on chloramphenicol and gives a warning about its toxic action on bone marrow. The final section of the issue discusses new drugs recently considered by the Cohen Committee. There it is suggested that the scientific information on the therapeutic effect of chlordiazepoxide "is clearly still limited." The caution necessary in the use of oxyphenbutazone and phenylbutazone is emphasised. When appetite suppressants are required, it is suggested that dexamphetamine might be tried in the first instance and recourse only had to preparations such as phenmetrazine and phentermine, if it should prove to be ineffective.

DUBLIN WHOLESALE'S SILVER JUBILEE

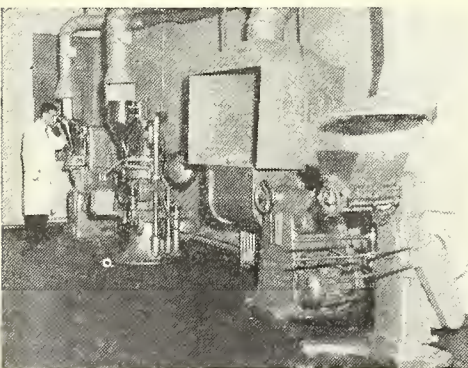
Twenty-five years of P. C. Cahill & Co., Ltd.

THE flourishing Irish wholesaling business of P. C. Cahill & Co., Ltd., Dublin, which is this year celebrating its quarter-century, was founded in 1936 by a small group of Irish pharmaceutical chemists and a chartered accountant. Their purpose was to create an entirely Irish-owned pharmaceutical wholesaling and manufacturing enterprise. The company started in business at 18 North Lotts on May 1, 1936, with a staff of twenty-nine. The first directors were Messrs. Eamonn T.

Walk premises. In 1950 new ground was broken by the company when they implemented a decision to go into the wholesale photographic trade and were appointed sole distributors in the Republic for the Zeiss-Ikon organisation of Stuttgart, Germany. That important agency was followed by others—Perutz of Munich, Gnome of Wales, the photographic chemicals of May & Baker, Ltd., Dagenham, Atlas lamps, Simplex-Ampro sound projectors, Focal Press and others. The Cahill organisation is



Top left: Frontage to Bachelor's Walk. The newly acquired premises (No. 15) are on the left. Across page: A close-up of the telephone booths in the office. Members of the warehouse staff and fleet of vans for delivery throughout the Republic. Lower left: Tablet-making and packaging departments.



McCarron (chairman), Patrick C. Cahill and John P. Holland. Until his untimely death in 1951, Mr. Cahill was managing director. Soon afterwards Nos. 15, 16 and 17 North Lotts were added. At the outset the company's activities did not extend much beyond Dublin city and the Leinster province, but, by the end of the first year, additional premises had to be acquired to accommodate the expansion, and No. 16 Bachelors Walk was acquired. From that point the company grew rapidly in stature and importance in the Irish pharmaceutical world, and today the company represents in the Republic many of the leading manufacturers of pharmaceutical specialities, including Eli Lilly & Co., Ltd., and Merck Sharp & Dohme, Ltd. Until 1961, when The British Drug Houses, Ltd., formed their own company in Ireland, they were representatives of that also. Between 1947 and 1948 it became necessary to construct a new suite of offices, and by 1959 the graph of expansion had risen so high that it became imperative to enlarge still further the 16 Bachelors

in fact the only pharmaceutical house that has also established itself as one of the top photographic firms in the Republic.

It is a far cry from the days when the company was operating with one van, but the man who drove it (William McCullagh) is still driving for Messrs. Cahill, though now one of the considerable fleet of Cahill vans on the roads today. Orders were received in those days on three telephone lines; now there are twenty 'phones in modern 'phone booths where headphoned order-takers type orders as they come in. Representatives "on the road" cover every part of the country. In 1947 P. C. Cahill & Co., Ltd., was made a public company and its shares rank high amongst the commercials on the Dublin Stock Exchange.

Determinedly Pharmaceutical

The policy of the firm has been always to employ pharmaceutical chemists where possible. The present managing director (Mr. John P. Holland) came into wholesale pharmacy shortly after qualifying, and it is mainly due to his initiative and executive ability that the company occupies its present high standing. Both he and Mr. Malachi

Leonard, another member of the board, are members of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland. Mr. Leonard, now twenty-five years with the company, was well known to many Dublin and county pharmacists as the senior representative before he became a director.

The two assistant managers (Messrs. Thomas J. Banks and James Hcgarty) are also members of the Society. In 1960 a manufacturing unit was established in which a wide range of medicinal tablets are produced. With that expansion No. 15 was acquired, and

this year a wholly-owned subsidiary has been formed: Chem-Labs, Ltd., which markets laboratory equipment and chemicals, supplying laboratory equipment and chemicals to hospitals, schools, colleges and industrial establishments.

Eire Pharmacy Workers' Wage Claim

DUBLIN LABOUR COURT PROCEEDINGS

"RETAIL pharmacy in Ireland is today faced with a multiplicity of difficulties which, with the low turnovers prevailing in chemists' shops, make the payment of higher salaries impossible." So said the secretary of the Irish Drug Association (MR. BRENDAN R. SMITH) at a sitting of the Labour Court in Dublin on December 6, when replying to applications by two Unions for increased wages on behalf of 485 qualified chemists, qualified and unqualified assistants, and registered druggists employed in Dublin, Cork, Limerick, Waterford, Galway and other smaller towns in the Republic. Mr. Smith said the position had been further aggravated by the cut-price shops, which were using mainly chemists' lines as "loss leaders," and which were, in the majority of cases, employing cheap juvenile labour.

The Irish Union of Distributive Workers and Clerks, representing 235 employees, sought an adjustment of the existing wage scale to provide an increase of 60s. a week at all points of the scales set out in the national agreement. The Workers' Union of Ireland, representing 250 employees, sought for qualified chemists an increase to a maximum of £15 (£16 10s. when covering shop), and that the maximum rate in the case of qualified and unqualified assistants and registered druggists should be increased by 70s. per week, with *pro rata* increases for those in the first, second, third and fourth years. The Union also asked to have managers' bonuses increased to 1 per cent. without limitation; that Sunday work should be paid for at double time, or a fixed amount of 20s., whichever was the greater; that three weeks' annual holiday should be granted; that working hours should be reduced on the basis of the pattern of reductions recently negotiated for most employments, the general application to apply equally to males and females.

Price-cutting

Mr. Smith said that proprietary medicines and various allied household necessities were now the subject of such severe price-cutting that the incapacity to meet higher wage demands was more than ever evident. Reminding the court that the Fair Trade Commission in 1956 had reported that the business of retail chemists was, in many cases, one in which profits were moderate, having regard to the professional qualifications of the proprietors, Mr. Smith said the Association could not understand why the Commission had taken no action to prevent the retail side of medicines and allied lines at less than the wholesale price. "It is noted with regret that, among the best sup-

porters of cut-price shops, are members of the various trade unions, who, by so supporting them, have recently helped to close a number of grocery firms, one with many branches which gave good employment for years past, and others of which have dismissed higher-paid employees."

Chemists' High Salary Percentage

Mr. Smith went on to say that the Fair Trade Commission report disclosed that other retail businesses paid 7.2 per cent. of sales in wages, while chemists paid employees 12.3 per cent. of the sales percentage. The national standard of wages was therefore higher in chemists' shops than in shops which in recent years had encroached to an increasing extent on what had formerly been traditionally the chemists' business. Maintaining a dispensing department to provide a prescription service could only be continued by the subsidised profits derived from the sales of "patent" medicines, soaps and other household goods. It was probably correct that, apart from countries in which the State provided free or part-free medicines, Ireland received compounded medicines at the cheapest rates. With those deflated prices the capacity to grant increases was not possible. If employees were badly affected, so also were the earnings of employers compared with those in other countries. Irish retail pharmacists, he believed, were at one of the lowest earning levels in the pharmaceutical world. "The Government is largely to blame for this state of affairs, and a changed outlook is necessary if pharmacy is to survive and the familiar chemist shop not to disappear," said Mr. Smith. An offer of 20s. a week for qualified chemists and 15s. for druggists' assistants (qualified and unqualified) had recently been made by the Association, and although it had been on a par with increases accepted by most other workers it had been rejected. All wage concessions granted to pharmacy employees came out of the employers' earnings, and even State bodies could recoup from the public by increasing prices.

MR. W. J. FITZPATRICK (general secretary, I.U.D.W.C.) said it was claimed on behalf of the members that, coming within the bracket of professional, semi-professional and highly-skilled workers, their remuneration did not bear any relation to the duties they were expected to perform, or to the rates paid in analogous employments. They were considered totally inadequate, having regard to the educational standard required and the training and degree of responsibility involved.

MR. J. O'CONNOR (W.U.I.) submitted that the rates of the members did not

begin to compare with rates applying in the field of "white collar" employment. With the development of "health consciousness" as part of an improved standard of living, the demand for pharmaceutical products had greatly increased, and had led to an expansion in the trade. An increased demand for cosmetic and photographic products had also opened up lucrative avenues of trade for employers. An unqualified assistant was required to make up prescriptions under direct supervision. The qualified assistant had to serve an apprenticeship and to have passed an examination of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland. He was required to take charge in the temporary absence of the pharmacist and to make up prescriptions without supervision. Employees were required to expend considerable money and time in qualifying, and their salaries bore no relation to that or to the value of the service they rendered. Present managers' bonuses did not compare with incentives normally provided in retail trades. The sacrifice of part of their week-end leisure should, he submitted, be adequately compensated. Regarding the demand for three weeks' annual holidays which, he said, applied to non-manual employment generally, pharmacy workers operated on a seven-day week basis, and evening closing time was much later than in comparable employments.

In reply to MR. C. O'SHANNON (a member of the Court), who asked how pharmacists in voluntary hospitals were remunerated, MR. SMITH said they were paid the top rate of pharmacists covering shops.

MR. M. KEADY (chairman): It would be a matter for the hospitals themselves?

MR. SMITH: Invariably what happens is that, when an increase is granted, representatives of the employees approach the hospital authorities and the hospitals usually contact my Association to see what the retail rates are.

Asked by MR. O'SHANNON: "Do they inquire from you about the rates?" MR. SMITH replied that they usually did.

When asked if, from the submissions, the Court might infer that there might be too many pharmacists, MR. SMITH stated: "I would accept that interpretation."

Supplies to Clinics

MR. O'SHANNON asked whether many doctors, clinics or nursing homes supplied their own medicines, and MR. SMITH replied: "Unfortunately there are too many of them." MR. O'SHANNON then asked whether it was possible to give any idea how the prices charged to patients, private and public, in hos-

pitals compared with prices charged for medicines in chemists' shops, and Mr. A. C. HENNESSY (president, Irish Drug Association) replied that only that week a customer had bought a bottle of tablets and, when told the price was 26s. [the price of the manufacturer] had protested strongly stating that she had only paid 11s. for them in hospital. Asked by Mr. O'SHANNON if it was a voluntary or a local hospital, Mr. Hennessy gave the name of the hospital.

In reply to Mr. McLOUGHLIN (another member of the Court), Mr. SMITH said that the Association had sought at the conciliation conference to wipe out the differential and institute a salary, based on top grading, which applied to qualified and unqualified personnel. The differential between males and females had originally been introduced at the request of the employees. Female staff now worked a forty-four hour week, males a forty-eight hour week. The Association's offer meant that, one year after apprenticeship, the starting salary would be increased by 15s. for unqualified assistants. With the new degree course staffs would be paid a flat rate. About 3,586 were employed in 1,500 pharmacies throughout the country, which meant that the Association would be dealing with about 2,000 employees in all grades. Most pharmacists were paid considerably in excess of the minimum wage.

Mr. F. J. ROBINSON said that pharmacy managers were represented as receiving a wage that looked small on the schedule, but it was realised among the trade that anyone covering a shop as manager received a bonus—paid on the success of his work over the twelve months. "I think it is most unfair to have the Press publish chemists' rates when it is well known that the published rates are much lower than the rates received by men covering shop. There are minimum rates, but I do not think anybody would work for them."

Mr. O'SHANNON then asked if there were many people engaged in the retail shops who were not pharmacists, to which Mr. SMITH replied "About 10-15 per cent. of the figures I quoted."

Mr. FITZPATRICK said his union had been dealing with chemists' assistants and druggists' assistants since 1919 and he wondered why, if the position was as bad as represented in pharmacy, there were "such grandiose schemes" envisaged by the Pharmaceutical Society for increasing educational facilities at the College. He thought it serious for prospective employees to be attracted into the profession if pharmacists could offer no more than the rates now being disputed. The employment of counter-hands, not subject to wage agreements, was considerably on the increase in pharmacies. He had heard a member of the Association say that they were not anxious to see that development increasing—they would prefer unqualified assistants. When the Union had first sought a differential rate for men and women there were practically no women in pharmacy. He did not accept that, on the whole, managers were paid much more than the stipulated rates. Regarding the suggested abolition of scales with the new degree course, Mr. Fitzpatrick said

they regarded it as illusory. Nobody at present would benefit from it, and they were not legislating for posterity. As to the suggestion that shop assistants would have to be employed instead of professional personnel, Mr. Fitzpatrick said "If the I.D.A. think... they are going to have an easy job finding assistants that is not going to be the position."

Mr. McLOUGHLIN: What has happened to make your demands shoot up by £3 like this? Presumably, up to now they were all right.

Mr. FITZPATRICK: I submit the rates were never right, and we never accepted them as right. Pressure was strong from our members that something drastic would have to be done about it. There had been great agitation because qualified personnel were obliged to work with counter-hands. Employees are dissatisfied with the rates and I think they have every right to be.

Mr. O'CONNOR said that if the employers were to continue their present resistance to wage increases there would be revolution in a few years' time. A maximum of £15 a week was by no means exorbitant for a qualified chemist, he stated. Regarding the suggestion that there might be too many chemists' shops, Mr. O'Connor said there were new pharmacies opening, but

no evidence of any of them having to close down.

Mr. P. J. O'BRIEN (Cork Branch, I.U.D.W.C.) said that in Cork staffs had been agitating since January to have the position rectified. Apart from ability it should be remembered that it took money to qualify. The staff situation was such at present that he knew one pharmacist who had been unable to go on a holiday for the past three years because he could not get a locum.

Mr. SMITH said the case presented by him was a factual one dealing with the current position in pharmacy. The Fair Commission figures quoted were the latest available because profit rates had not changed since. Training facilities were a statutory responsibility of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland and had nothing to do with the I.D.A. The new plans aimed at improving the standard of pharmacy so that Irish pharmacists would be as fully competent as their colleagues abroad. The plans deserved better than to be treated in derisive fashion by the Union. He knew of a wholesaler who had offered to give his products to the staff at cost, but the staff had refused, saying they could get them at lower prices in cut-price shops. There was no doubt that cut-price shops were having a most serious effect on chemists' livelihood.

EIRE BENEVOLENT FUND DANCE

Successful "major social event" in Dublin

THE annual dance in aid of the Benevolent Fund of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland was held in Dublin on December 5. With numerous spot-prizes as well as a monster raffle, the dance fully lived up to its reputation as a major social occasion. The guests included the president of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland and Mrs. Loughman; the vice-president and Mrs. O'Sullivan; the treasurer and Mrs. Kennelly; the registrar and Mrs. Coleman; the president of the Irish Drug Association and Mrs. Hennessy; the president of the Phar-

maceutical Society of Northern Ireland and Mrs. Thornton; the chairman of the Scottish Executive of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain and Mrs. Bain; the secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society of Northern Ireland and Mrs. Gorman; the editor of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST (Mr. O. H. Waller); the registrar of the Apothecaries' Hall and Mrs. O'Malley; the president of the Medical Representatives' Association and Mrs. McKenna; and the chairman of the Dublin Branch, Photographic Dealers' Association (Mr. F. Roche).



Members of the dance committee and officers of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland with guests from the provinces, Northern Ireland, Scotland and England.

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The Markets in 1961

A QUIET YEAR FOR DRUGS AND OILS, A COMPETITIVE ONE FOR PHARMACEUTICAL AND FINE CHEMICALS

DULL and quiet trading conditions in CRUDE DRUGS and ESSENTIAL OILS during 1961 made the year's turnover for dealers in those commodities the lowest for many years. PHARMACEUTICAL and FINE CHEMICALS met with severe competition from Continental and other sources, however, and sales were generally held and even increased. Profit margins, on the other hand, fell, since the increased production costs caused by higher wages, dearer fuel and transport, etc., could not, in most circumstances, be recouped from the consumer. History will record 1961 as the year in which man went round the world in outer space for the first time. To the pharmaceutical industry it is likely to be recalled rather as the year in which the British Health Minister decided to invoke a section of the Patents Act to enable the Government to buy from abroad certain widely prescribed drugs subject to patents in Britain. The action, unprecedented in peace time, naturally caused considerable dismay among the home manufacturers.

All sections of the community were affected by the country's economic state which, by July, prompted the Government to bring in its "little budget" only three months after the normal April Budget, which had been designed as anti-inflationary. Some commentators claimed that it would be good discipline for manufacturers to meet the extra competition from the Common Market countries in the next few years, especially if the United Kingdom were not accepted into membership.

Crude Drugs

The variety and quantity of CRUDE DRUGS held on the spot continued to lessen. The higher cost of warehousing today can soon turn a profit into a loss if the goods are not quickly sold, and certainly few commodities were in constant demand. Shortages among BOTANICALS were, therefore, commonplace, and when the new season's material came along the greater part of each consignment had usually been sold beforehand. Demand for supplies of IPECACUANHA from all sources was erratic. Brazil, which used to quote new-crop material around November for delivery in January-February, was unable to offer. As with other wild crops, the labour which normally gathered the root was believed to have switched to easier and, no doubt, more remunerative crops. MENTHOL again figured more frequently than any other single commodity in the weekly reports, though there were many when business in the commodity was scant. At the beginning of the year Chinese material stood at the highly inflated price of 90s. per lb., duty paid, but offers for shipment began to ease in January and, as parcels began to arrive in March, spot material started to ease. That trend continued throughout the year with the

CRUDE DRUGS	Per	December 1960	December 1961
		s. d.	s. d.
Aloes, prime Cape (c.i.f.) . . . cwt.		167 6	147 6
Balsam, tolu, genuine . . . lb.		25 0	35 0
Buchu, rounds . lb.		— —	4 6
Camphor, B.P. (in bond) . . lb.		3 10½	3 10½
Cascara . . . cwt.		265 0	270 0
Cloves, Zanzibar lb.		2 9½	2 9½
Cochineal, black lb.		11 6	7 0
Ergot, Portuguese lb.		9 3	8 0
Gentian, French cwt.		155 0	150 0
Ginger, African. cwt.		230 0	260 0
Jamaican No. 3 cwt.		200 0	270 0
Gum acacia . . cwt.		155 0	140 0
Ipecacuanha, Matto Grosso lb.		55 0	— —
Menthol, Chinese (duty paid) . lb.		90 0	57 0
Brazilian . . .		57 6	46 6
Mercury . . . flask		1,380 0	1,180 0
Seeds			
Anise . . . cwt.		170 0	235 0
Caraway . . . cwt.		160 0	157 6
Coriander, Moroccan . cwt.		130 0	130 0
Dill . . . cwt.		100 0	100 0
Sengga . . . lb.		21 6	16 6
Shellac, F.O. . cwt.		235 0	235 0
Waxes—Bees', Dar-es-Salaam cwt.		475 0	425 0
Carnauba, prime yellow . . . cwt.		740 0	700 0

result that the value dropped back to 57s. or about the same level as two years ago. Brazilian material being more moderately priced did not show such a wide variation, nevertheless it finished the year about 10s. under the level of a year ago. Most American botanicals were marked up sharply during the early part of the year because of the short crop in 1960. WITCH HAZEL LEAVES cost about 4s. per lb., landed, and CHERRY BARK, 2s. 9d. Higher ocean freight rates, which operated from the beginning of the year, added ½ cent to the c.i.f. price per lb. LOBELIA was scarce and expensive, the new Dutch crop appeared to be sold out before it was harvested. The same was true of DIGITALIS. Most of the Dutch crops were later than usual. The two South African products ALOES and BUCHU were fairly steady in price, first arrivals of buchu leaves being priced at around 4s. per lb. In October it was reported that buyers were willing to pay a bigger premium for extra-prime over prime aloes.

Among BALSAMS, genuine-as-imported TOLU continued to decline, largely because of the much higher price now demanded for it compared with the manipulated B.P. grade. COPAIBA was rarely quoted for shipment. ARROW-ROOT was unobtainable in quantity because suppliers in St. Vincent were unable to meet their commitments. Apart from some easing during April-May Kobé AGAR was fairly steady

throughout the year; Spanish, being cheaper, made some inroads into the market. Portuguese ERGOT was available during the whole period. There was a sudden price rise during August but it was not sustained for more than one month. There were few, if any, offers of material from Eastern Europe.

The infrequent parcels of Russian LIQUORICE were usually taken up quickly, so that for the most part only Persian material was available on the spot, but by November that, too, had been cleared.

SPICES had a quiet year. African new-crop quotations opened at 150s. cwt., c.i.f., but spot material commanded a considerable premium over that figure until March, when they were brought into line. Jamaican new-crop offers opened at 202s. 6d., c.i.f.; spot material moved between 200s. and 220s. until, towards the close of the year, it began to move upwards, particularly in December, when the price had reached 270s. by the middle of the month.

The SAFFRON crop in Spain was reported to be 40 per cent. down on 1960, and spot prices rose by 15s. a lb. in December, though new rates were below replacement values. SENEGA was of little interest throughout and, as the winter season brought no extra demand, there were sellers in December at 16s. 6d. per lb., against 21s. 6d. twelve months earlier. The CLOVE growers in Zanzibar and Pemba met with unprecedented difficulties in gathering and disposing of their crops owing to flooding on the islands and on the mainland from which extra labour is normally engaged.

Aromatic Seeds

In AROMATIC SEEDS, more interest was shown in Chinese Star ANISEED because the ordinary green variety was in short supply with high prices asked. The year was uneventful in CARAWAY with prices remaining more or less at the same level. Towards the end of the year India's crop of CELERY was estimated to be about 400 tons, which had to last until the new crop in June-July. American interest forced the price up to 275s. per cwt., c.i.f., for the current crop. Moroccan and mid-European crops of CORIANDER were short and shipment prices remained at a high level; Indian bold was the cheapest offering which consumers were compelled to buy. The volume of business in CUMIN was not as great as in previous years, so that prices eased towards the end of the year. Indian DILL was in rather small, but steady, demand throughout the year with little change in price. There was practically no Chinese FENNEL offering for shipment, buyers were mainly interested in Indian seed which was around 87s. 6d. to 90s. per cwt., c.i.f. The quantity of Moroccan FENUGREEK was not so good and demand was small although consistent;

India's price was not competitive. English MUSTARD at the beginning of the year was difficult; due to weather conditions the new crop continued in moderate demand.

Essential Oils

Broadly speaking, high-priced essential oils tended to decline in price, while the cheaper ones showed gains on the previous year. Thus Bourbon GERANIUM, which twelve months ago was quoted at 140s. per lb., could be obtained for 85s. VETIVERT showed a fall of from 10s. to 15s. per lb. BOIS DE ROSE was steadier than usual, and closed the year 1s. down. It was in LEMONGRASS and CITRONELLA that the most frequent changes occurred. Prices of the Ceylon variety of citronella "see-sawed" in most weeks, with the result that the net average change in price from 1960 was negligible, but fluctuations in the price of Formosan were more pronounced.

LEMONGRASS was particularly tight, especially during the last quarter. Dealers had allowed their stocks to fall hoping that lower prices would prevail when the new crop came along but, at the time that should have happened, there were heavy rains at the producing centre, and that prevented collection and distillation. With the continued shortage prices soared well over the £1 per lb. mark and were 50 per cent. up on December 1960. Chinese PEPPERMINT displayed a much easier tone, and that had its effect on the Brazilian oil. The American crop of peppermint oil was said to be plentiful, but the Italian to be short. During most weeks of November and December Chinese ANISE rose by sixpence or one shilling per lb. although in the previous six months prices had been scarcely changed. Californian LEMON was advanced during June and July and was held at the higher levels for the rest of the year.

ESSENTIAL OILS (per lb.)	December 1960	December 1961
	s. d.	s. d.
Anise	6 8	12 0
Bergamot	72 6	72 6
Bois de Rose, Brazilian	14 9	13 9
Citronella, Ceylon. . .	6 7½	6 2
Formosan (in bond)	7 0	8 6
Clove, Madagascar leaf, duty paid . . .	8 0	7 9
Eucalyptus, 70-75 per cent Spanish	— —	3 3
Geranium, Bourbon . .	140 0	85 0
Lemongrass	14 3	23 0*
Lime	50 0	48 0
Palmarosa	33 0	43 0*
Patchouli, Penang d.p.	42 6	33 0
Peppermint, Chinese .	37 9	27 0
Brazilian.	17 6	15 3
Italian	60 0	48 0*
Sandalwood, Mysore .	150 0	170 0
Vetivert, Bourbon . . .	115 0	100 0

*nominal

Pharmaceutical Chemicals

The few price rises in pharmaceutical chemicals that occurred during the year were mainly confined to low-priced items on which carriage charges bear a disproportionate part of the cost.

Thus higher ocean freight rates on BORAX and BORIC ACID, which became effective on January 1, forced the suppliers to add 10s. per ton to their schedules on February 1. A further rise in freight rates during April was, however, absorbed by the suppliers. FERROUS SULPHATE was advanced by 2s. 6d. per cwt. in September, and CALCIUM CARBONATE by £1 a ton in May. THYMOL, which is temporarily exempted from import duty, was advanced by sixpence in April. The year began with an all-round rise of the order of twopence per lb. in SALICYLATES. As in previous years, ALKALOIDS continued firm throughout, except for BRUCINE, the demand for which eased with the coming of a synthetic product for use as a denaturent. The duty on HYDROCARBON OILS imposed in the April Budget put the price of LIQUID PARAFFIN up a little, and the 10 per cent. surcharge on excise duties levied in July affected ETHYL ALCOHOL, SACCHARIN and GLUCOSE.

CHEMICALS		December 1960	December 1961
	Per	s. d.	s. d.
Aneurine hyd.	kilo	185 0	155 0
Aspirin	lb.	4 9	4 5
Boric acid pdr.	cwt.	96 6	97 0
Caffeine citrate	kilo	26 0	26 0
Calcium lactate	lb.	2 3	2 3
Citric acid	cwt.	221 0	156 9
Cream of Tartar	cwt.	241 0	241 0
Cyanocobalamin	gm.	480 0	140 0
Glycerin	cwt.	254 6	225 0
Nicotinamide	kilo	57 0	41 0
Nicotinic acid	kilo	36 0	29 0
Potassium bromide	lb.	2 5	2 5
citrate	lb.	2 10	2 8
iodine	kilo	19 3	19 3
Pyridoxine	kilo	980 0	710 0
Sodium salicylate . . .	lb.	3 7	3 9
Tartaric acid	cwt.	300 0	292 0
Theobromine alkaloid	kilo	60 0	50 0
Theophylline alkaloid, B.P.	kilo	31 9	32 9
Thymol	lb.	14 3	14 9
Zinc oxide	cwt.	107 6	95 0

Lower rates of imported crude GLYCERIN helped the refiners of B.P. material to lower their prices on three occasions—in June by £18 10s. a ton, in September by £20, and in November by £10. ETHYL ALCOHOL and METHYLATED SPIRIT were reduced in March. Technical grades of ISOPROPYL ALCOHOL were cut at the end of April, though the grades for essences, etc., were not affected.

POTASSIUM PERMANGANATE was in short supply, especially for export, and the prices advanced slightly in May. The revaluation of the German and Dutch currencies in March added 5 per cent. to QUINIDINE prices. Fears that the sale of large quantities of QUININE from the United States stock-pile would upset the market proved, in the event, to be unfounded.

Price falls among pharmaceutical chemicals were more numerous and more substantial than rises. VITAMIN prices came under the most severe pressure, as output climbed at home and abroad. The amount of the reductions in some of the more important vita-

mins may be seen in the accompanying table. Low-priced Belgian CITRIC ACID caused domestic producers to lower their rates on four occasions—in January, July, October and November. CITRATES were reduced in February and again in November. TARTARIC ACID dropped 1s. per cwt. in March and a further 6s. in July. In August the Ministry of Health brought out a reduced price scale for tablets of PREDNISOLONE and PREDNISON. At the time it was not possible to purchase those compounds at the lower rates, but bulk material was soon afterwards reduced by 2s. to 3s. per gm. CORTISONE was also reduced at that time, an earlier reduction having taken place in January. Many METALS were weak, and their salts, including MERCURIALS and ZINC OXIDE, became cheaper in consequence. THEOBROMINE displayed a soft tone for most of the year, but prices tended firmer towards the close. ASPIRIN was reduced at the end of the year as a result of competition from imported material.

Industrial Chemicals

OLEIC and STEARIC ACIDS were marked up in May. Several INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS which had been short for many years began to show an easier tendency. The American recession, which caused a lessening in demand at the very time producers were bringing new plants into production, caused a brake on exports from Britain and the Continent to the United States. Among items affected were PYRIDINE and NAPHTHALENE.

THE WEEK'S PRICES

LONDON, DECEMBER 27: The New Year is to start with a number of important price reductions. ETHYL ALCOHOL is being reduced on January 1, 1962, by twopence per proof gall.; ACETIC ACID by £5 per ton, ACETIC ANHYDRIDE by £10 per ton and ETHYL and ISOPROPYL ACETATES by £7 per ton.

NEW YORK, DECEMBER 27: MENTHOL prices eased further with Brazilian at \$6 per lb. (down 25 cents); Formosan, \$6-10 (15 cents); Japanese, \$9 (40 cents). VANILLA BEANS turned firmer with the Bourbons at \$6-85 per lb. (up 45 cents) and Mexicans, \$8 nominal (50 cents). Spanish SAFFRON rose 75 cents a lb. to \$24-50. Lavandin at \$1-50 per lb. was dearer by 20 cents while PATCHOULI at \$4-35 per lb. was down 15 cents.

WORLD TRADE

Pharmaceutical Products For Syria.

—Because of a serious shortage of pharmaceutical products in Syria, substantial imports have been envisaged through direct contacts with world-wide manufacturing companies.

Colombian Drug Exports.—According to a recent estimate by the Asociación de Fabricantes y Representantes Exclusivos de Productos Farmacéuticos, exports of drugs from Colombia in 1961 should total 24 million pesos, mainly to Peru, Ecuador and Central American countries. The value of production of pharmaceutical products this year was expected to be 450 million pesos (against 300 millions).

INSTRUMENTS AND APPARATUS

Process Timers.—Rodene process timers, manufactured by D. Robinson & Co., Ltd., 717 London Road, Hounslow, Middlesex, are being increasingly used in chemical processes where accurate timing is necessary. The range includes models that provide a period of timing varying from one second to three hours or more.

Sole Agents.—Edwards High Vacuum, Ltd., Crawley, Sussex, have been appointed sole United Kingdom and British Commonwealth agents for the new Reciprotor combined vacuum/pressure pump manufactured in Denmark. Operated by an electromagnetic vibrator from an a.c. supply, the pump is unique in a number of features, including its compact design, weight of only 10 lb., and oil-free air delivery (no lubrication necessary).

Portable Water Demineraliser.—The Permutit Co., Ltd., Gunnersbury Avenue, London, W.4, have added to their range the Mark 7 portable Deminrolit unit. It has a plastic body accommodating a battery-operated tester and control valves, plus a detachable and replaceable plastic cartridge containing a bed of intimately mixed Zeo-Karb cation and De-Acidite anion exchange materials. Each cartridge produces from London water 16 gall. of demineralised water of a quality satisfying the B.P. specification for purified water.

Irradiation Investigations.—Marketed by Watson & Sons (Electro Medical), Ltd., East Lane, North Wembley, Mid-

dlesex, a gamma-ray irradiation cell built by Atomic Energy of Canada, Ltd., may be used for the sterilisation of pharmaceuticals, surgical equipment and other materials. The self-contained unit, which can be installed in existing laboratories, is simple in operation. Remote handling is not necessary, and the external radiation field is low. Mishandling involves no radiation hazard. The radiation source is a ring of cobalt-60 rods, mounted around a stainless-steel cylinder that is embedded in a shielding block. The 6-in.-diameter cylindrical sample chamber, 8 in. high, is loaded and unloaded above the source, into which it is moved by a motor. Samples may be irradiated for a pre-set time between eighteen minutes and 120 hours, and if, for any reason, irra-

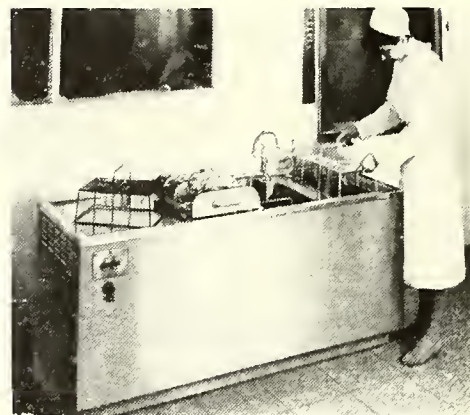
diation is stopped before the desired time is completed, the remaining irradiation time is indicated. Four ducts connected with the sample chamber allow the entry of pipes carrying liquids or gases and wiring, thus enabling irradiation in a controlled atmosphere to be achieved.

Beaker Tongs.—Beaker tongs issued by Loughborough Glass Co., Ltd., Loughborough, Leicestershire, enable hot and corrosive liquids to be handled safely and simply in containers of 2-6 in. The tongs are diecast in an aluminium alloy, for lightness and strength; they are operated by a level in the hand grip that allows free manipulation of tongs and container with one hand. Fitted to the jaws of the tongs are pads moulded in vulcanised polythene (non-slip and resistant to heat and chemicals).

Multi-purpose Kit.—Described as "a complete service for the smaller and a mobile reserve for a larger laboratory," the M 80 Multifix multi-purpose apparatus, driven by a 1/10 horse-power motor with one control, has many laboratory uses. The most popular applications are for direct and indirect stirring; for magnetic stirring; for suction and as a compressed air pump; as a centrifugal pump; for cork and bung drilling; as a circular saw or fret saw and for polishing. The apparatus provides forward or reverse movement at infinitely variable speeds from 0-2800

r.p.m. The additional accessories may be purchased separately or as complete assemblies. Also available is a set of small tools for light work and to be used together with a hand chuck and flexible drive. The range is available from the Loughborough Glass Co., Ltd., Loughborough, Leics.

Ultrasonic Cleaners for Syringes.—The new Kerry ultrasonic cleaner dis-



tributed by the surgical division of Allen & Hanburys, Ltd., Bethnal Green, London, E.2, was designed in conjunction with Guy's Hospital, where the first three-tank model is now in constant use in the central syringe department. It resoaks, ultrasonically cleans and automatically rinses syringes of any capacity from 2 mils to 20 mils. In the two-tank model the presoak tank is omitted.

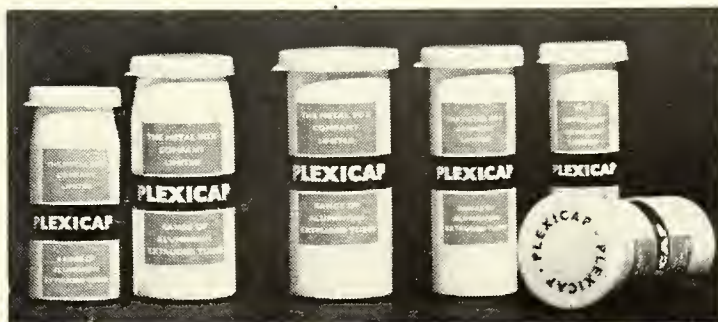
PLASTIC-CAPPED EXTRUDED CONTAINERS

A cost advantage over wadded screw-capped tubes

PLEXICAP is the name given to a new range of extruded aluminium containers with specially designed cap that has been developed by the general line group of the Metal Box Co., Ltd., 37 Baker Street, London, W.1. The aluminium tubes have an outward curl at the top, which is tightly gripped by two sealing rings on the inside of the cap. One ring, on the skirt of the cap, fits closely round the outside of the curl; the other, on the top of the cap, presses against the inside of the tube. The seal obtained in that way is claimed comparable in performance with that of a screw-capped container fitted with a rubber wad, but costs less. The Plexicap container is in two styles. One is the full-aperture type, in which the open end is equal in diameter to the rest of the tube, making it ideal in the smaller diameters for "pillar" packing. The second style has the top necked-in, the outside diameter of the cap being the same as the diameter of the tube, giving a neater appearance

and having economic advantages where individual cartoning or bulk packing are concerned. The closure is designed for simple capping by a downward pressure on the extruded body for which there is suitable automatic equipment. For small runs, the caps can be applied by semi-automatic means. The complete range of Plexicap containers is to consist of eleven diameters with full aperture—from 20 mm. to 75 mm.—and five diameters with necked-in aperture—from 25 mm. to 70 mm. Within that range, heights from 1½ times up to 6-7 times the diameter are available, according to customers' requirements. In the case of the necked-in containers, where variations in height involve costly tooling, a limited number of standard heights, costing appreciably less and with shorter delivery dates, are being offered. The tubes can be decorated in up to four colours on any light-coloured background coating. The caps may be supplied in any of a range of several colours and may be die-printed, or special part

moulds can be made to include an embossed name or trade mark.



At left are two sizes of the "necked-in" model of the Plexicap, at right a range of diameters in the "pillar" type range.

Remote handling is not necessary, and the external radiation field is low. Mishandling involves no radiation hazard. The radiation source is a ring of cobalt-60 rods, mounted around a stainless-steel cylinder that is embedded in a shielding block. The 6-in.-diameter cylindrical sample chamber, 8 in. high, is loaded and unloaded above the source, into which it is moved by a motor. Samples may be irradiated for a pre-set time between eighteen minutes and 120 hours, and if, for any reason, irra-



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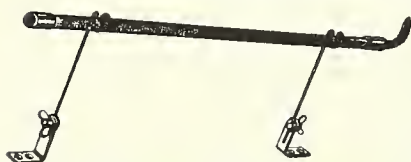
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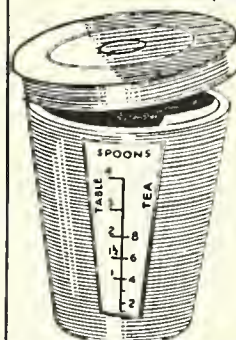
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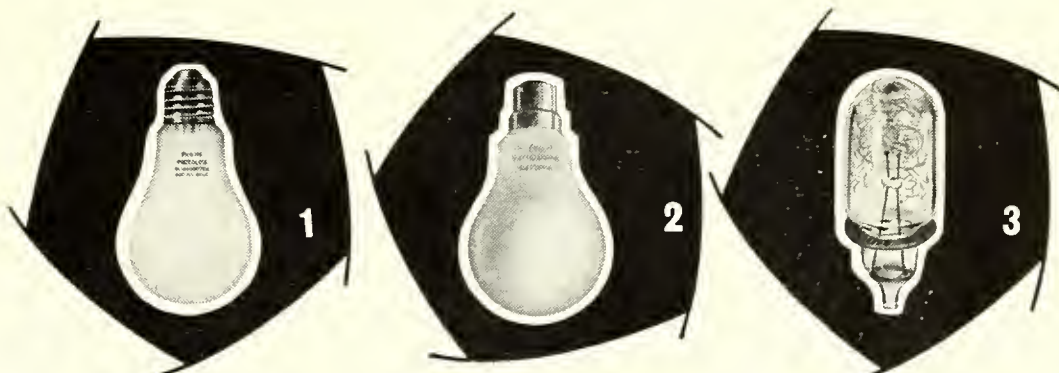
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Five photographic best-sellers!

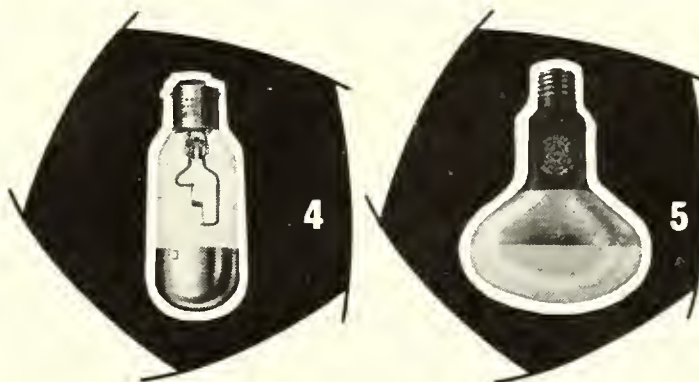
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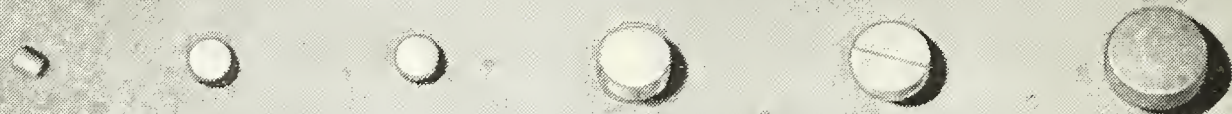
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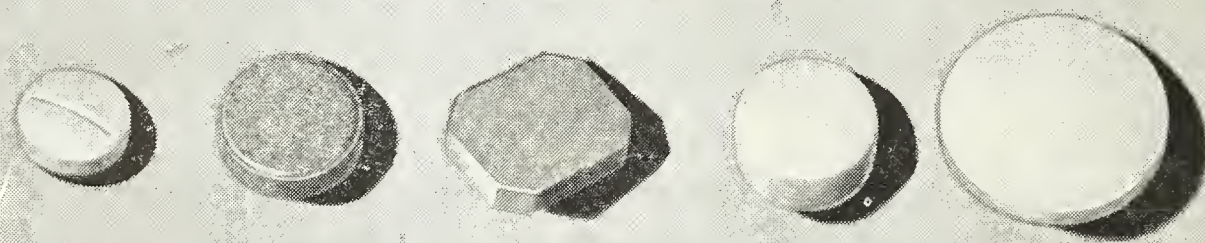
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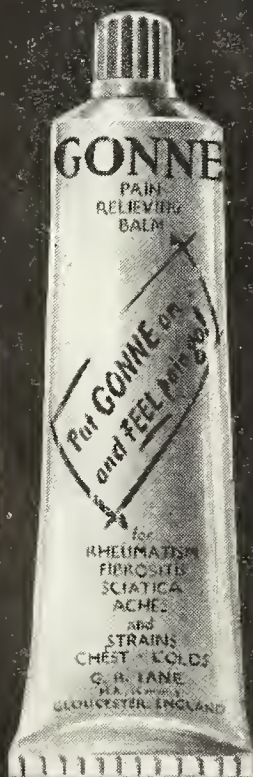


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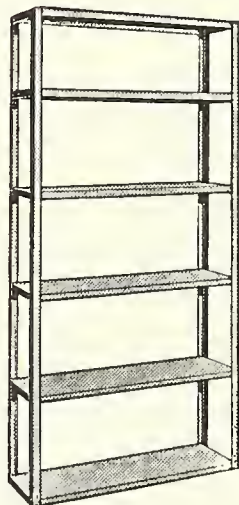
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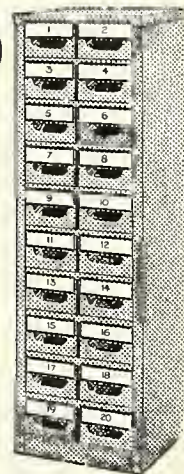
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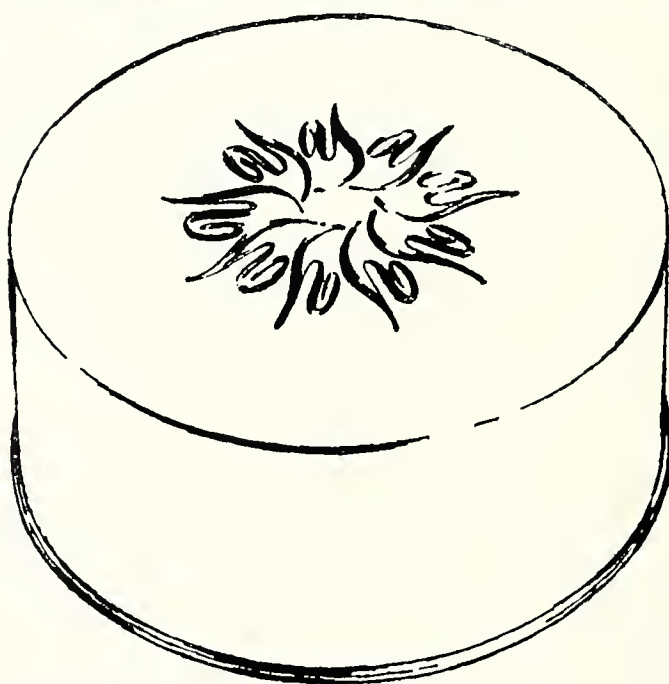
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Dr. Scholl's CORN & CALLOUS FILE ...	29/- doz.	14/6	5/-
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As from 1st January, 1962, the 10% Purchase Tax Surcharge, introduced by Government order last July, will be invoiced as appropriate. During the interim period since July we ourselves have met this surcharge, but now our trade prices have been adjusted accordingly and the usual Dr. Scholl generous retail margins have, of course, been maintained. Full details are shown in our new price list.

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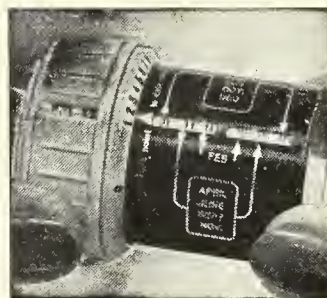
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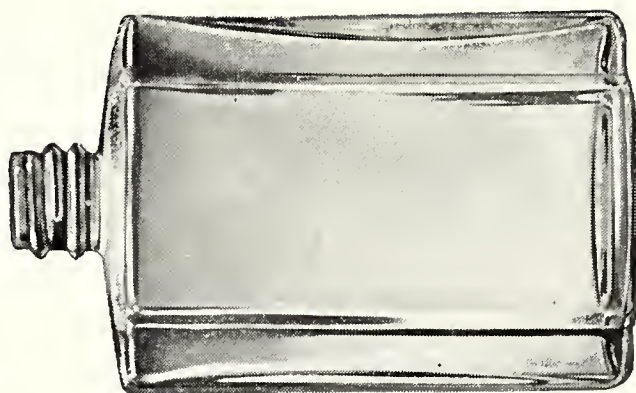
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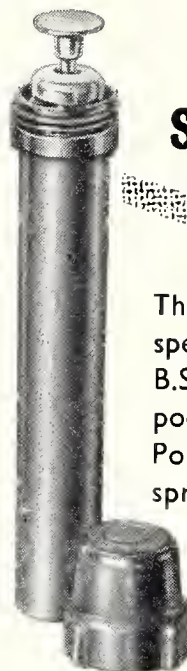
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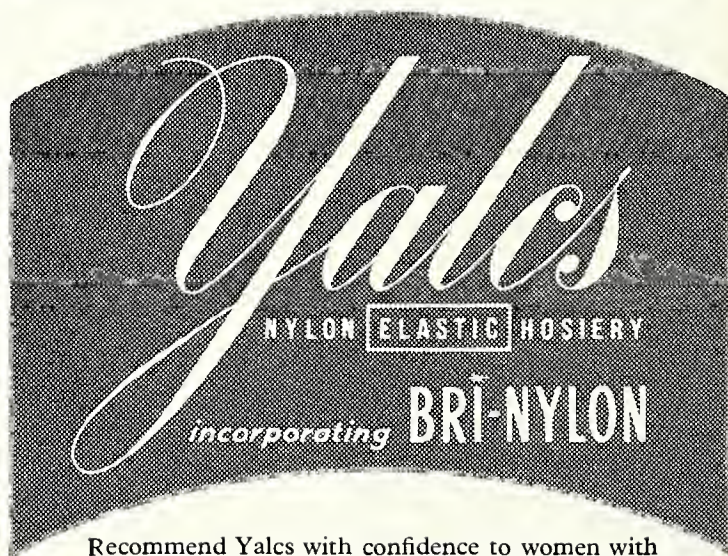
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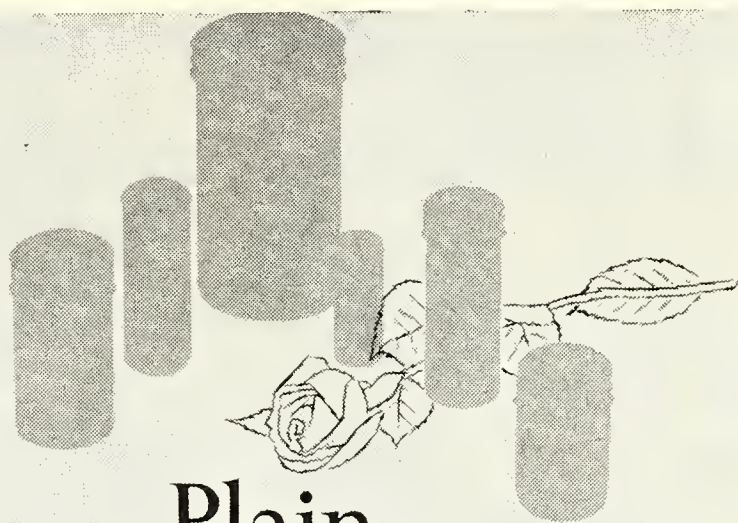
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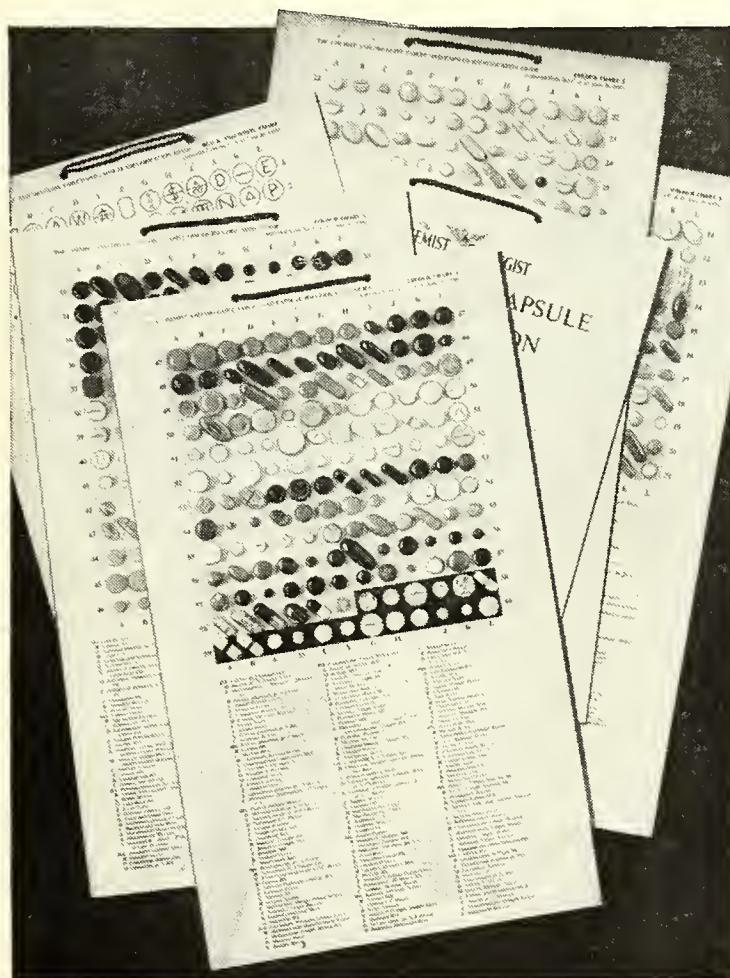
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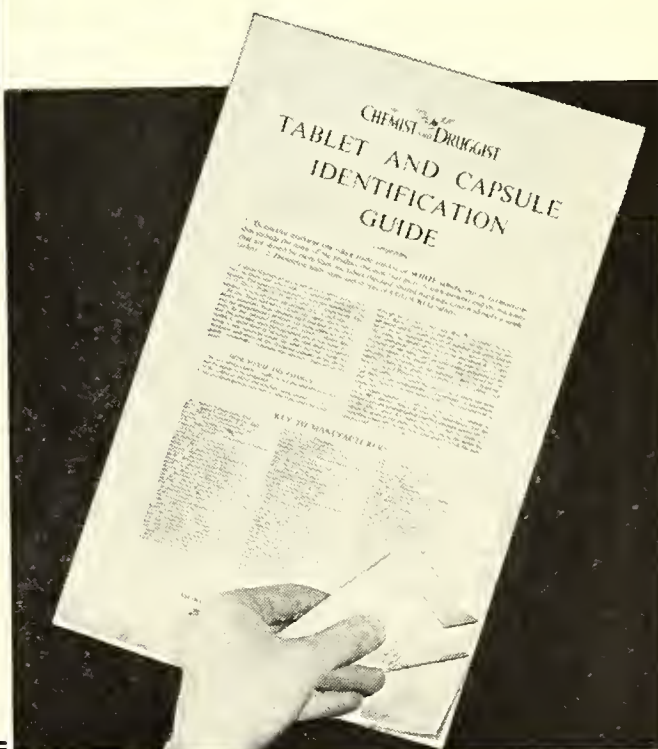
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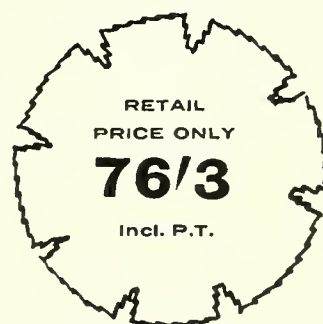
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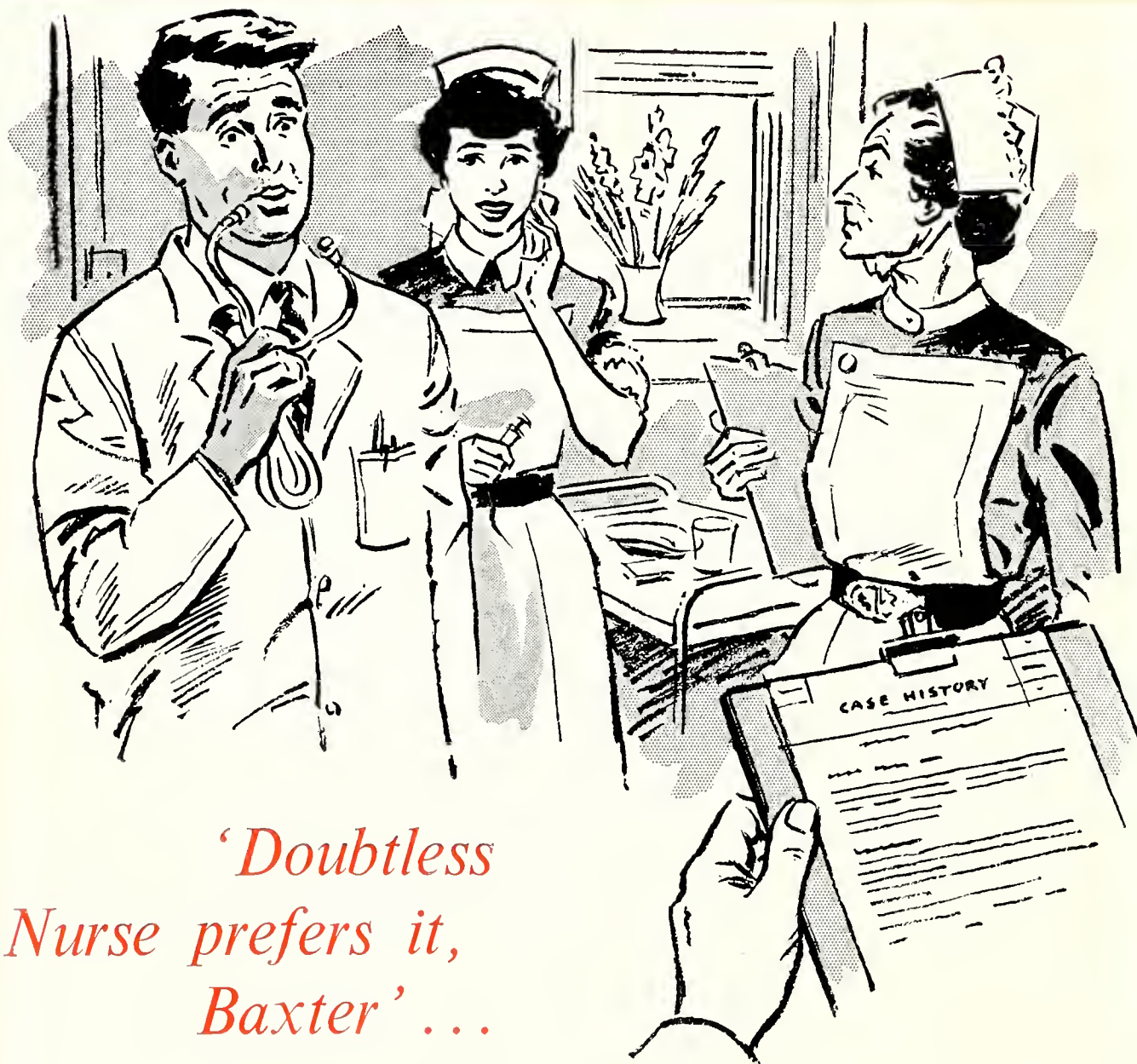
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